MIDDLE EAST AND SOUTH ASIA REVIEW

23 JANUARY 1981

Iran

Nabavi on Hostages--Minister of State of Executive Affairs Behzad Nabavi has told PARS that the U.S. allegations of "torture and mistreatment" of the hostages are "completely predictable" and a result of "brainwashing" perpetrated during the hostages' "forced stay" at a U.S. military hospital. Describing such allegations as "nonsense" and "absolutely untrue," Nabavi said Iran will broadcast taped television interviews with the hostages about their living conditions to disprove the charges and thanked the Muslim students for their "kindly" treatment of the hostages during their captivity.

Iranian-Soviet Relations--A Foreign Ministry statement carried by Tehran radio reiterated Iran's "regret" over the 27 December incident at the Soviet Embassy in Tehran but said subsequent Soviet protest notes to Iran contained material "insulting" to the Iranian Government and questioned the "good will" of Iranian Government officials. The statement declared that Iran wants "good-neighbor relations" with the Soviet Union, but it questioned the Soviet motive for asserting that if Iran is incapable of providing security for the Soviet Embassy and personnel, the Soviet Union will "do the job itself." Why should the Soviet Union, which regards itself as a supporter of anti-imperialist movements, the statement asked, adopt an approach "similar to that adopted by Reagan?" Iran is "sensitive" about this matter and hopes it will be studied "expeditiously," the statement added, noting, nevertheless, that Iran is grateful to the Soviet Union for its support for Iran's "anti-imperialist positions and actions" and for its provision of transit facilities during the economic blockade. The statement concluded by claiming that the Iranian Government not only wants but is able to provide security for "all foreign missions and their staffs in Iran" and does not desire "hostile clashes of this kind."

Iran-Iraq Conflict

Palme Mission--UN special envoy Olof Palme has said that he perceived a "growing interest" in Iran and Iraq toward solving the Gulf war. In an interview with Stockholm radio, Palme noted President Abolhasan Bani-Sadr's request for "clarifications" to various proposals for negotiations, although he emphasized that the two countries' positions on certain issues are still "extremely hard."

Islamic Conference Delegation--An Islamic delegation consisting of Islamic Conference Secretary General Habib Chatti, Turkish Foreign Affairs Minister Ilter Turkmen, Guinean External Affairs Minister Abdoulaye Toure, Pakistani Foreign Affairs Minister Agha Shahi and PLO Political Department head Faruq Qaddumi arrived in Tehran on 23 January, Tehran radio's Arabic service reported. The radio stated that Iran "is completely ready" to enable the delegation to visit the battlefronts in the west and in the south to "acquaint themselves with the nature of the war imposed by Iraq" and the "ugly crimes perpetrated by Saddam's regime."

Israel

Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir called in the FRG Ambassador to express Israel's concern over the possible sale of West German tanks to Saudi Arabia, according to Jerusalem radio. The foreign minister said that the "clarification" from Bonn "has not been satisfactory" and that the introduction of German weapons into the Middle East is "inconceivable."

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CHATTI SAYS IRAN WILL RECEIVE CONFERENCE GROUP

LD221534 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1510 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, 22 Jan (SPA)--Secretary General of the Islamic Conference Organization Habib Chatti has stated that the Iranian authorities have agreed to receive the good offices committee which the Islamic foreign ministers' conference decided to send to Tehran to persuade the Iranian officials to attend the third Islamic summit.

The task of the committee, which will be leaving At-Ta'if for Tehran later today, will not last more than 24 hours in Tehran, Chatti added. The committee's program there has not yet been fixed. It was decided that the committee will meet a number of Iranian officials to exchange views on Iran's participation in the conference so as to provide a suitable climate for resolving the Iraqi-Iranian dispute and put an end to the war between the two Muslim brothers.

Referring to the deliberations of the foreign ministers' conference at its final session, Chatti said they were positive and constructive and that all clauses, with the exception of two, were unanimously approved.

IRAQI, OMANI OFFICIALS COMMENT ON HOSTAGE ISSUE

Hammadi Remarks

LD230925 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 21 Jan 81 p 1

[Ayman Habib report: "Iraq Does Not Object To Discussing Its Dispute With Iran at Summit"]

[Excerpt] At-Ta'if--Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi said in a statement to 'UKAZ that the atmosphere of the [Islamic Conference] political committee meetings was normal and that there were no differences within the conference but it was natural that there were different views.

Dr Hammadi asserted that the release of the American hostages will have no significant effect on the Iraqi-Iranian war which has been going on for 4 months. Each party to this war has mobilized its forces and the strength of each side has become clear; there are no unknown variables or things that did not exist in teh war before which could exist now. There will be no essential change in the war either because of the questions of the hostages or any other question.

His excellency affirmed that the Iraqi delegation will not refuse to discuss any subject, including the subject of the war with Iran. We are prepared to discuss this matter fully, he said.

His excellency said that if the question of the Iraqi-Iranian war is to be discussed at the summit conference, Iraq is ready for this.

Az-Zawawi Remarks

JN230936 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0900 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, 23 Jan (GNA)--Qays az-Sawawi, Omani minister of state for foreign affairs, has affirmed that the Islamic foreign ministers' conference has laid down a number of foundations for joint Islamic action.

In a statement published by the Saudi paper 'UKAZ today, he said: The Iranian-U.S. agreement on the hostages has no relations to the situation in the Hormuz Strait and does not affect the strait, which is safe. He pointed out that the navigation routes in the strait are open and functioning normally.

Az-Zawawi stated that the Gulf states are cooperating and coordinating in various fields, adding that such cooperation and coordination culminated in the meetings between these states' leaders at the Amman summit, which led to the desire to play a bigger role to bolster ties and achieve more, thus embodying the spirit of Gulf cohesion and solidarity and guaranteeing the Gulf states' security, which is the responsibility of these states alone.

The Omani minister affirmed his country's determination to contribute to any loyal and constructive work that would bolster security and stability in the region and serve the Gulf states' common interests.

He expressed the apprehension of the Islamic states and international community over the threats of Soviet expansion in the world in general and the Islamic region in particular.

The Omani minister warned of the Soviet penetration in the region, which is for the purpose of expanding and imposing hegemony, citing the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan and military presence in other regions.

The Omani minister called for rallying efforts and joint action among the region's states to ward off and remove this danger.

FOREIGN MINISTERS CONFERENCE CONTINUES 22 JAN

Islamic Solidarity Charter

LD231050 Kuwait KUNA in English 1006 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] At-Ta'if, 23 Jan (KUNA)--An Islamic solidarity charter endorsed by the Islamic foreign ministers here yesterday calls for the settlement of communal differences and rejection of foreign military bases in Islamic territories. The charter will be tabled before the Islamic heads of states who will meet in Mecca next Sunday.

The declaration calls for strengthening of Islamic solidarity among member nations and affirms peaceful coexistence between those states regardless of their political, economic and social structures.

Relations between countries of the Islamic world should be maintained within the framework of justice, equality and dual respect, the charter says.

Relations between Muslim countries should be conducted in an atmosphere of security and stability and member nations must refrain from direct or indirect interference in each other's internal affairs, it added.

The charter calls for maintaining spiritual values, cooperation and promotion of Islamic culture.

Islamic countries should join efforts in promoting technology and in providing assistance to each other through the Islamic Conference Organization.

To maintain their full solidarity, Islamic nations should refrain from joining military pacts, the charter said.

Final Session

GF230507 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] The Islamic foreign ministers' conference resumed its final session at 1648 today under the chairmanship of Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign affairs minister and conference chairman, in order to approve the committee's resolutions on the third Islamic summit agenda.

The conference held a session at 1200 today during which it discussed the Mecca communique in its final form.

End of Conference

LD221946 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 22 Jan 31

[Text] The Islamic foreign ministers' conference concluded its final session this evening. His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, foreign minister and chairman of the conference announced at 2100 that the current session of the conference had ended.

The conference turned into an open session at 2015, and His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal and the heads of the delegations of Senegal, representing the African group; Indonesia, representing the Asian group; and Morocco, representing the Arab group and Palestine, delivered speeches in which they emphasized the success of the conference, and its ending with positive results which realize the interests of Islam and Muslims, particularly with regard to their fateful issues, foremost of which is the question of Palestine and occupied Jerusalem.

They expressed thanks and appreciation for the efforts exerted by the kingdom to protect and manage the conference, and for the generosity and hospitality shown to everybody. They also praised His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal for his good management of the conference, his courtesy and all the efforts he made to secure its good results.

Delegates' Departures

GF230610 Riyadh Domestic Television Service in Arabic 1800 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] A number of Islamic foreign ministers left At-Ta'if after having led their countries' delegations to the Islamic foreign ministers' conference meetings. Jordanian Foreign Affairs Minister Marwan al-Qasim left At-Ta'if for Jordan yesterday evening. He was accompanied by a number of officials. UAE Foreign Affairs Minister Rashid 'Abdallah al-Nu'aymi and Qatari Foreign Affairs Minister Shaykh Ahmad ibn Sayf Al Thani [name as heard] left At-Ta'if yesterday evening. They were seen off at the airport by the Saudi ambassador to the UAE, Shaykh Muhammad Mansur ar-Rumayyih; the Qatari ambassador to the kingdom, 'Abd al-Aziz al-Sa'ad; and a representative from the royal protocol office.

Syrian Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Affairs Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam left At-Ta'if yesterday evening. The minister and the delegation accompanying him were seen off by the Saudi ambassador to Syria, Shaykh 'Abd al-Muhsin az-Zayd, and a representative from the royal protocol office. Iraqi Foreign Affairs Minister Sa'dun Hammadi departed early this morning. He was seen off by a number of officials.

YAR Foreign Affairs Minister 'Ali Lutfi ath-Thawr left At-Ta'if this morning. He was seen off at the airport by the Saudi ambassador in San'a', Shaykh Tirad al-Harithi, and the YAR ambassador to the kingdom, Hamud al-Jayfi. Bahraini Foreign Affairs Minister Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah left At-Ta'if today. He was seen off at the airport by the Saudi ambassador to Bahrain, Shaykh 'Abd ar-Rahman al-Qadi; the Bahraini ambassador to the kingdom, Shaykh Ibrahim 'Ali Ibrahim; [name as heard] and Bahraini Embassy staff.

SAUDI PRINCE FAHD ON ARAB, ISLAMIC POLICIES

LD221627 Riyadh AR-RIYAD in Arabic 18 Jan 81 pp 3, 17

[Interview granted by Saudi Deputy Prime Minister Crown Prince Amir Fahd ibn 'Abd al-Aziz to Muhammad Aba Husayn and Nasir al-Qar'awi in At-Ta'if--date not specified]

[Excerpts] Question: One of the results of the historical Islamic trip which the late King Faysal made to several African countries in the sixties was the drastic shrinking of Zionist influence in Africa and the closing of its embassies in many Islamic capitals.

Today, as this number of Islamic states is attending the Islamic summit meeting in Mecca is there any intention of putting forward the idea of severing relations between Israel and the Islamic countries that still have ties with it? What about the major Islamic plan which will be put before the summit and which is based on the call for jihad?

Answer: The question of diplomatic relations between some Islamic countries and Israel does not require a summit to deal with it. When the African countries adopted their unforgettable stand toward Israel they were not obliged to do so by a summit resolution but rather responded to our quiet dialogue with them. They were convinced of their action against Israel. Indeed, it was an upholding of all the values and ideals we support in the international arena. When some of the Islamic countries and even foreign countries recently changed the status of their diplomatic representation with Israel, or greatly reduced it, or moved their embassies from Jerusalem they did not so in accordance with a summit resolution but on the basis of their interests and their moral obligations toward the UN resolutions and toward the Arab cause and as a result of the Arab and Islamic efforts in the world organization.

The clear picture that we have before us, as I have already said, is to lay down a joint Islamic stragegy under which to struggle to defend our usurped legitimate rights.

This has been our idea on a jihad which will be put to the summit in order to regain our rights and liberate our holy places. We are for a jihad in accordance with such a strategy which must be clear and to which we must be committed just as we are committed to our own entity. We are for a comprehensive Islamic jihad, a jihad with words, with money, with men, with economy, with science and even with arms. This is our understanding of the idea of a jihad which, God willing, will be put to the third summit.

Question: The recent Amman summit gave a strong impetus to Arab political and economic activities, which are evident in the resolutions adopted. But there were certain Arab countries that did not attend the summit. Have these countries so far shown any sign of approving the resolutions adopted? What is your opinion on this?

Answer: At the Amman summit we concentrated on the stragegy of joint Arab action in the coming years. There is no disagreement between the Arab countries, at either leadership level or the level of the peoples, about the importance of such strategy and the need for it by both peoples and countries. If some of the Arab countries did not attend the conference for reasons of their own this does not absolve them of their commitment to the conference's resolutions and recommendations, particularly since all the Arab countries, including those countries that did not attend the summit, had earlier approved the resolutions of the Arab foreign ministers conference that preceded the summit. There were no disagreements on these matters, not even after the summit.

Question: Biased rumours were recently circulating to the effect that the kingdom's obligations toward its sisterly countries and toward some of the Islamic countries have been diminishing and that the kingdom no longer offers anything without preconditions and without some political strings. What is your highness' comment on this, what is the form and method of the aid and loans program that the kingdom gives to others, and what is the proportion of this aid in relation to the national income?

Answer: The Saudi Arabian Kingdom, thank God, is completely convinced that it is part of the Arab nation and the Islamic nation. And first and foremost it is part of the big world community. It is undoubtedly an important part of it. This is naturally the reason why such rumors and questions are being circulated. We realize that we cannot live in isolation from what is going on around us and that we must interact with everybody by influencing and being influenced. We should give and take.

Our policy in the kingdom is based on a principle from which we will never deviate, namely noninterference in the internal affairs of any country with which we have a dialogue of any kind because in the first place we refuse to let anybody interfere in our affairs or poke his nose in what is our business and not his. When we committed ourselves to the principle of giving aid and assistance to brothers and friends we did not do so to indulge in luxury, do favors or cause harm. Rather our obligation stems from commitment to brothers and friends. A strong brother and friend are a thousand times better than weak ones. We cannot rely on an Arab or Islamic or international front unless such fronts are strong and effective and can play their role effectively. It is in our interest, therefore,to be a strong one among the strong. Our commitment to support brothers and friends as much as we can afford stems from this principle. This is our philosphy and how we look at things. This is our policy; it is clear and has not changed and neither has it diminished. We have no preconditions [for giving aid] to anybody and we do not like to impose our views and will on anybody because we do not like anybody doing this to us. Suffice it to point out here that the total of what the kingdom offers annually to developing countries reaches about 7 percent of national income. This is much higher than what the biggest and richest industrial country offers.

LE MONDE CITES DOCUMENT ON COMBATTING ISRAEL

LD221347 Paris LE MONDE in French 22 Jan 81 pp 1, 7

[Eric Rouleau dispatch: "Increased Support for the PLO"]

[Text] At-Ta'if, Saudi Arabia--The third Islamic summit will probably mark an important date in the annals of the Palestinian conflict. The "specific action" program unanimously adopted by the foreign ministers of the 38 participating states on Tuesday, 20 January contains innovations and measures which are bound to aggravate Israeli-Arab tension and are likely to lead to confrontation between the Muslim world and some Western powers, especially the United States. This "new strategy" is the one drawn up in Rabat by the Jerusalem Committee, under King Hassan II's supreme guidance, whose report will only be published after its ratification by the heads of state, which is considered certain to be given. The Islamic summit will open on Sunday as planned.

According to certain leaks the document notably contains the following points:

--Security Council Resolution 242 which has served as a basis for all the Israel-Arab negotiations for more than 13 years is proclaimed "invalid for solving the Near East conflict and the Palestinian problem." It is true that the PLO has always demanded the repeal or, at least, the amendment of the UN document, pointing out that it said nothing about the Palestian demands. The innovation in the Islamic conference's resolution lies in the fact that many countries, particularly Arab countries, which had explicitly or implicitly accepted the validity of Resolution 242 are henceforth backing the opposition shown by the fedayeen organization. Thus the serarch for a settlement to the Israeli-Arab conflict would have to be started anew.

--The oil weapon is, for the first time, being brandished as a threat to states which continued to back in one way or another, Israel's "expansionist and racist policy."

The document adopted in At-Ta'if does not, of course, talk of suspending the production of black gold nor does it use the term embargo and it makes do with merely citing oil as one of the resources which should be used to "liberate Jerusalem and the occupied territories."

As Faruq Qaddumi, chief of PLO diplomacy, explained to us, "there are 1,000 ways of imposing oil sanctions on Israel's friends." One example is to drastically reduce mineral oil supplies to a traditional client on some pretext.

--Economic sanctions going as far as breaking off trade relations are apparently envisaged for states which agree to recognize, even implicitly, Jerusalem as Israel's capital. In this respect any foreign government would be considered "guilty" if its representatives were to present their credentials in Jerusalem, make official visits, enter into negotiations or sign any agreement in the holy city. These provisions are presented as being not only a "retaliatory measure" for the legal annexation of Jerusalem by Mr Begin's government but also as a means of persuading foreign powers hostile to the Arab cause or neutral in the conflict to adopt a "friendly attitude toward us."

According to a separate proposal put forward jointly by Syria and the PLO, the states promise to stipulate in any trade agreement signed individually or collectively with Israel that the occupied territories are excluded from the agreement's sphere of application.

--An Islamic boycott office, similar to the one set up by the Arab League around 30 years ago, would be set up. Its objective would be "to ban foreign companies maintaining economic, commercial or financial relations with Israel from any activity on Islamic land." The "black list" drawn up by the Arab League would serve as a basis for the one which the 40 or so Islamic Conference Organization members would draw up.

--All states will immediately be called upon to ban the emigration of Jews to Israel failing which they would be accused of "unfriendly" behavior toward the Islamic world. That clause essentially concerns the Soviet Union.

--The Islamic Conference will step up its support for the PLO. Not only will it reaffirm its recognition of the fedayeen organization as being "the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative" but it will stipulate: "The PLO has the absolute right to participate independently and on an equal footing with other delegations in all congresses, activities and international meetings relating to the Palestinian cause and the Israeli-Arab conflict.... And no agreement or all-embracing settlement will be deemed valid without the PLO's participation and explicit approval.... No other power will be able to claim to represent the Palestinians or negotiate on their behalf...."

This document is clearly directed against the "Jordanian option," against the Israeli Labor Party's plan to settle the Palestinian confict with King Husayn over the PLO's head.

In addition we have learned from a Palestinian source that the PLO will receive multi-faceted aid in all spheres, including the military sphere, from the Muslim countries. Subsidies of around $300-400 million would be paid to the fedayeen organization. On the other hand a Syrian-Palestinian proposal to "reopen all military fronts" against Israel was rejected by a majority of the foreign ministers after the Jordanian and Lebanese representatives expressed their opposition.

Since all the other questions on the agenda have been overshadowed the Islamic conclave certainly deserves the nickname it has been given: "Conference on Palestine and Jerusalem."

'UKAZ REVEALS PLAN PUT TO USSR ON AFGHANISTAN

LD230937 Jidda 'UKAZ in Arabic 21 Jan 81 p 1

[Ayman Habib report: "Plan To Confront Soviet Occupation of Afghanistan; Eight-Point Plan Ensures Independence and Security of the Islamic Country"]

[Text] Jidda--'UKAZ has learned that Habib Chatti, general secretary of the Islamic Conference Organization, met unofficially with the Soviet ambassador in Paris some time last year and asked him to inform his government that the committee set up by the Islamic foreign ministers' conference had a plan to solve the Afghanistan problem peacefully.

Sources told 'UKAZ that the plan submitted by the general secretary consisted of the following eight points:

1. Inviting all the political parties in Afghanistan to a roundtable conference.

2. The formation of a national unity government in Afghanistan.

3. Holding negotiations between this government and the Soviet Union in order to secure a cease-fire and work out a schedule for the withdrawal of the Soviet forces.

4. The drafting of a constitution.

5. Putting the constitution to a referendum and electing a representative parliament.

6. Forming a representative Afghan Government

7. Convening as international conference in order to reach agreement between the Afghan Government on the one hand and the Soviet Union, the United States, China, Iran and Pakistan on the other under which Afghanistan would undertake not to conclude military alliances with any of the two superpowers and not conclude military alliances with any of the two superpowers and not to give any military bases.

8. Respect for Afghanistan's independence by its neighbors.

'UKAZ has learned that the Soviet Union's response to the general secretary was "vague" because Moscow clings to Babrak Karmal's regime.

The same source said that Chatti made it clear to Moscow that Karmal's regime is illegitimate.

The committee on Afghanistan set up by the Islamabad Islamic foreign minister' conference yesterday resumed its meeting in At-Ta'if under the chairmanship of Islamic Conference Organization General Secretary Habib Chatti with Saudi Foreign Minister Amir Sa'ud al-Faysal and the representatives of Tunisia, Pakistan and Guinea attending. The committee heard statements by Amir Sa'ud al-Faysal, Pakistani Foreign Minister Agha Shari and the Tunisian representative.

GAMBIAN, MALAYSIAN DELEGATIONS ARRIVE FOR SUMMIT

LD222238 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1910 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Excerpts] Jidda, 22 Jan (SPA)--His Excellency President Dawda Jawara, president of the Gambia, arrived here tonight heading his country's delegation to the meetings of the third Islamic summit due to begin in Mecca next Sunday, God willing. He was welcomed at the airport by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud ibn 'Abd al-Muhsin, deputy amir of Mecca.

Dr Mohamad ibn Mahathir, Malaysian deputy prime minister, arrived here tonight accompanied by the Malaysian delegation to the Islamic summit. He was welcomed by His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud ibn 'Abd al-Muhsin, deputy amir of Mecca.

PLO'S KHALAF ON DIALOGUE WITH JORDAN, U.S.

LD230835 Kuwait AL-WATAN in Arabic 19 Jan 81 p 4

[Second part of an interview given to AL-WATAN by Fatah Central Committee member Salah Khalaf, nom de guerre Abu Iyad--place and date not given]

[Excerpts] AL-WATAN: Is it said that the Amman summit has authorized King Husayn to speak with Reagan in the name of the Arabs?

Abu Iyad: We are not aware that the Arabs have authorized King Husayn to speak on their behalf with Reagan, unless this has happened behind the scenes. All of us are aware that Reagan's program is the same as that of the Israeli Labor Party. Frankly speaking, we will not agree to have King Husayn or any other leader speak on our behalf. We have reached full legal age and are capable of advocating our cause by ourselves and nobody, other than the PLO, has the right to speak on behalf of the Palestinians. It is true that we have a commitment to the Arabs not to seek a separate solution unilaterally but in consultation with them. We recognize this Arab right and we owe it to them. We would present the solution to the Arabs and it would be up to them to sanction it or not. This should not prevent the Arabs from discussing the Palestinian cause, but the solution must be Palestinian. I believe that the Arabs are at fault if they have authorized Husayn to speak with Reagan. We oppose this step and believe that it will not happen.

AL-WATAN: As long as we are discussing Jordan, we would like to know the dividing line between the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee and the dialogue which is said to be suspended. The work of the committees is continuing, of course?

Abu Iyad: The story of the dialogue with Jordan, briefly speaking, goes like this: In the wake of the Rabat conference, a decision was made to hold a Palestinian, Egyptian, Syrian and Jordanian meeting to achieve military and political coordination on the front. What happened was that a solitary meeting was held in Cairo, and then the October war took place. No further meetings took place until the Baghdad conference was convened and the question of aiding our people in the occupied territories was reopened. Our Arab brothers generously decided to give our people 150 million [currency not specified] --50 million to be distributed by the PLO directly and 100 million to be distributed by the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee. This is the gist of the resolution. The other clauses of the resolution stipulated that a political dialogue should take place on establishing a political presence for the revolution among the Palestinian and Jordanian masses in Jordan, and on military action that would not jeopardize the Jordanian interests but would involve expanding the front of fedayeen acting as well as propaganda activities inside Jordan. That was the objective, but what happened was that, after 2 years of dialogue, the result was zero. Jordan benefited from the dialogue without conceding a Palestinian political presence or even a propaganda base for the WAFA news agency. Therefore, the dialogue was a gain for Jordan at our expense. Of course, through this dialogue we forgot all the September massacres in Jarash and 'Ajlun and did everything in our power, and with great difficulty, to convince our people, our colleagues, comrades and brothers who had been harmed and had suffered losses and whose relatives were murdered in Jordan before and during the September, to forget the bloodshed.

Eventually, we were able to convince them and we told them that we, as a leadership, must endure and that, in order to confront Camp David, we must stand alongside any Arab who opposed Camp David. We went and talked a great deal on all levels. We even talked about the future of Palestine after any part of it is liberated and after the Palestinian state is established. The Jordanian side refused to talk about the future and talked only about general things, which proved that it did not seriously believe in the establishment of a special relationship with Jordan following the establishment of a Palestinian national state. On the contrary, Jordan began to adopt a harder line toward the fedayeen who set off for the occupied territories. Jordan arrested any fedayeen who fell into the hands of its forces. The Jordanian prisons were full of fedayeen, and the number of fedayeen arrested every week ranged between 100 and 300.

I reemphasize that the dialogue with Jordan has been suspended for a long time and only the joint committee is still working. I support the continuation of this committee provided that it is not exploited for political action or by Jordan. I do not wish to mention here the torture operations to which the Palestinian detainees are subjected inside Jordanian prisons. There are Palestinian university professors in Kuwait; go and ask them what Jordanian intelligence did to them. Ask them how Jordanian itelligence tried to brainwash them and asked them to work in its department. Jordanian intelligence tortured them, used force to make them talk about things and about Kuwait, and recorded their statements on tape in order to blackmail them. We advised these persons to approach the Kuwaiti Government and to frankly inform it of what happened to them. Jordanian intelligence knows what I am talking about.

AL-WATAN: A Palestinian leader has made statements defending Jordan with regard to the Jordanian option, in the sense that Jordan rejects the so-called Jordanian option which is also rejected by the PLO. What is your view on this?

Abu Iyad: Any Palestinian leader, cadre or individual who tries to make Jordan appear blameless will be working within the framework of the Jordanian option.

AL-WATAN: How do you explain the statement made by the new U.S. secretary of state, Alexander Haig, about the Reagan administration's intention to deal with certain personalities within the PLO?

Abu Iyad: First of all, we welcome any European or American party which recognizes the PLO. We would like to have a dialogue with America, but there is a difference between holding dialogue and pinning our hopes on it. I believe that the Americans have not changed their policy since 1948. Their policy is to ignore the PLO and even the Palestinians and any legitimate representative of theirs and also their cause and rights and, on the other hand, to give unlimited military and economic aid to Israel. These are the guidelines of American policy, and they will not be changed by statements made by Haig or any other person. Meanwhile, they have no right to bestow epithets of moderate or immoderate on the Palestinian leadership. I believe that the fighters should not be described as moderates or immoderates. The representatives of the Palestinian people are fighters, and I believe that any Palestinian leader who abandons his rifle before liberation is not worthy of his representation. Our value rests with the rifle and with fighting. Therefore, the epithets given by Haig and his ilk do not concern us. In the final analysis, the decision rests with the rifle. We reject dialogues behind the scenes or even the call for such dialogues. Whoever wants dialogue should hold dialogue openly. This talk of moderate and immoderate is rejected by us and is meant to divide the ranks. The Americans are stupid and their policy is stupid because they busy themsleves with peripheries. Peripheral elements cannot make decisions. Those who can make decisions are those holding the rifle.

AL-WATAN: Haig has stated that the PLO is not terrorist. What is your opinion?

Abu Iyad: This is a great and new step. I would like to say, however, that America and Europe have had the habit of designating liberation movements as terrorist movements; in the end, they are compelled to recognize these movements because they represent the will of the peoples.

AL-WATAN: Some Palestinian leaders have welcomed the so-called European initiative, while others deny the existence of such an initiative. Does this signify a double standard in the Palestinian stance?

Abu Iyad: There is no double standard, because a double standard exists when we both reject and accept something. As for the European initiative, show it to us so that we may discuss it. The fact is that some European statements are less extreme than the American statements. I challenge any Arab or Palestinian official to prove to me that a written or quasi-written European initiative exists. There is no initiative, and it is we who invent illusory initiatives. The Venice statement, for example, contained a line which said that the Palestinians and some members of the PLO must participate in any solution to the Middle East issue. A week later, the NATO foreign ministers met. U.S. Secretary of State Edmund Muskie came out to tell the journalists that "the good line in the Venice statement was deleted during the meeting." Thus we see that anyone who tries to draw a line between American policy and European policy is deluding himself. Europe may have political ambitions to establish economic unity detached from the United States. America is using its agents to frustrate and contain that ambition, let alone a European political aspiration. We regard what As-Sadat has done as a historical crime, because he has given Israel cover for any solution. This cannot change unless the Arab balance of power changes by mobilizing all the Arab capabilities, and it is then that Europe and America will seek a solution. Such a solution cannot be achieved in the absence of the Soviets and the Palestinians.

AL-WATAN: The execution of spies and enemy collaborators in the occupied territories: was this done by a revolutionary decision?

Abu Iyad: We made decisions to execute spies on a very small scale in the wake of As-Sadat's visit to Jerusalem, the Camp David agreements and the autonomy. We were afraid that some weak-spirited people would participate in the autonomy conspiracy. However, I proudly put it on record that even the agents could not come out of their holes. After September 1980, some persons began to move vigorously and the Revolution Command issued a decision to carry out a number of execution sentences. I emphasize that there is a decision to liquidate all those who collaborate with the enemy and the Camp David agreements. This is an ultimatum to them, because the revolution will punish them severely. I would like to point out here that some collaborators have now desisted.

BAHRAIN

AMIR CABLES PRESIDENT REAGAN ON INAUGURATION

JN221036 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0945 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] Manama, 22 Jan (GNA)--Bahraini Amir His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah has expressed the hope that relations between his country and the United States will be developed and bolstered under the new U.S. Government.

This came in a cable his highness sent today to U.S. President Ronald Reagan on the occasion of his inauguration as U.S. President.

The Bahraini amir expressed the hope that the United States will contribute to achieving peace and stability in today's world.

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FROM AT-TA'IF CONFERENCE

JN221230 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1150 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Manama, 22 Jan (GNA)--Bahraini Foreign Affairs Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah returned here today after heading his country's delegation to the Islamic foreign ministers conference in At-Ta'if.

SAUDI ARABIA

PRINCE FAHD ON GULF SECURITY, CALL FOR JIHAD

LD221426 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 0830 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Excerpts] At-Ta'if, 22 Jan (SPA)--His Royal Highness Crown Prince and Deputy Prime Minister Prince Fahd ibn 'Abd al-'Aziz granted a comprehensive interview to the magazine IQRA', published today, in which he dwelt on a number of Arab and Islamic issues.

Here is the text of the interview which his royal highness granted to the magazine:

Question: The kingdom is preparing to be the host to the third Islamic conference. Does your highness expect this summit to bring together the Islamic nation with a view to attaining its aims? Will the kingdom submit a Saudi working paper to the conference, and if so, what are the most important points of this working paper?

Answer: We shall have our views and ideas which we shall submit to the brothers during the conference. But before, during and after the conference, we shall continue to consolidate and back every Islamic effort that would achieve the welfare of Islam and Muslims everywhere. We support the strategy of joint Islamic action in the political, economic, cultural, technical and military domains if this is possible; this is our duty since we are the loyal custodians of Muslim sanctities.

Question: Last 'Id al-Fitr your highness called for jihad as the only Arab and Islamic reply to Israel after it had annexed east Jerusalem to west Jerusalem and turned it into its eternal united capital. Does your highness intend to submit the call anew to the Islamic summit so that it might adopt a programmed resolution for the execution of the call?

Answer: Our call for jihad for the liberation of the land and the retrieval of holy Jerusalem did not arise from nothing. Thank God we are Muslims and this is the call of Islam to the nation of Islam at all times. It was to protect its peaceful home, which is the land of the Muslims, and to ward off evil regardless of sacrifices and martyrdom for the cause of God; this will always remain the objective of every Muslim.

Our call for jihad was also a bell that warned the world about what was being plotted against us. It was also the beginning of our call for joint Islamic strategic action that would organize the jihad with funds, self-sacrifice, information, economy and weapons if necessary to confront the challenges of our enemies, led by Israel, which has usurped Palestine from its inhabitants and is continuing its conspiracies to annex occupied Jerusalem and make it a united capital of its Zionist entity.

Palestine is still occupied, its fraternal people are still homeless and Jerusalem is still under the control of Zionism. Therefore the land of the Muslims and their sanctities are still exposed to danger. The entire Islamic world is called upon today to complete and to back what the kingdom started; that is, to stand firmly against this barbarous invasion of the two kiblahs (Mecca and Medina) and the third holy place (Jerusalem) and to set a plan for the liberation of the occupied land, especially holy Jerusalem, from the pawns of the detested Zionist occupation. The Islamic world is called upon to set a plan for the liberation of the Islamic land which is still under occupation. The Islamic world is called upon to spread the Islamic call and to defend it against subversive ideology and tides. The Islamic world is called upon to work for the protection of Muslim minorities in non-Islamic countries and to give them the opportunity to practice their rights fully, including their right to practice the Islamic rites and its teachings.

Question: The Iraqi-Iranian conflict might constitute an obstacle to the success of the third Islamic summit. What sort of settlement for this conflict would guarantee the unity of the Muslim nation?

Answer: The Iraqi-Iranian conflict is one of the matters for which the summit is to be held, rather for which an Islamic summit would have been held anyway. Our task is to consolidate points of agreement and to contain our differences; the outcome should be positive.

Question: It is being said that the train of the Arab countries which oppose the Camp David agreements came to a halt at the Baghdad summit 2 years ago and has not moved any further and that Egypt, by opting for a separate peace with Israel, has escaped from the no-peace, no-war zone, while the Arabs have fallen into it.

Answer: All that has been said about opposition to Camp David stopping at the Baghdad summit 2 years ago is prattle. Yes, prattle. We did not object to Camp David just for opposition's sake; there is no yardstick or measure for the halting of the march. We have an opinion about what has taken place and also an attitude toward it. Opinion and attitude do not march or halt; they breathe and move whenever they have the chance to do so or whenever there is a need to do so. Our opinion and our attitude are still the same as they were at the Baghdad summit. Our moves and our contacts bear witness to the firmness of opinion and attitude toward the outcome of Camp David. We have taken more than one step and achieved more than one gain in this direction.

Speaking of measuring gains and losses, let me ask you: Did Israel not lose a lot after Camp David as a result of our firm attitudes? Let me remind you of what we achieved against the Begin government's decision to annex occupied Jerusalem and make it Israel's united capital. As a result of our decisive attitude in stopping many countries from responding to the Israeli decision, the few states which used to have embassies in occupied Jerusalem preferred to move these embassies out of Jerusalem for fear of being affected by those measures. Is this not a gain for us and a loss for our enemy, are these not steps forward after the Baghdad summit?

The talk about the no-peace, no-war zone is rejected in view of the fact that the entire Arab nation is in a constant state of self-defense in an attempt to end injustice and restore its usurped rights. Egypt, therefore, has not escaped from this zone--if one can use the expression--because of Camp David nor have the Arabs fallen into it because of Camp David.

Question: The Camp David accords have cast dark shadows on traditional Saudi-American relations. Most prominent of those was the cancellation of your highness's trip to Washington. Do you believe that the assumption of power by the Republicans in the United States will disperse those shadows so that a constructive dialogue can begin to unravel the differences with the United States, at the center of which are the Palestinian problem and the Palestinians' right to a homeland and a state?

Answer: In our relations with the United States, there are no dark or light shadows. Our traditional relations with the United States are based on friendship, common interests and mutual respect. We in Saudi Arabia do not feel that we are a party to the presidential elections; these are the property of the friendly American people who are free to choose whom they like from among their parties and statesmen. We are friends of all, within the framework which we have laid for the firm relations of friendship between our two countries. Friends agree and differ, without alliances or subservience. We always hope to reach the stage of agreement with our friends, or, shall we say, full understanding with regard to our just cause, our legitimate rights in Jerusalem and in the occupied Arab territories and the rights of our Palestinian brothers, at the fore of which is their right to self-determination, to return and to set up a national homeland for themselves.

Naturally I should like to express my hope and that of the millions of Arab citizens that the election of His Excellency President Ronald Reagan will mark the beginning of an era of good and that his new administration will bring a wind of change to the Middle East to deliver the region from its current state of turmoil, a state which is bound to explode at any moment.

Generally speaking, the Saudi-American dialogue has not stopped, so that it would have to begin again. Positive cooperation between the two countries is continuing in their interests. It is a continuous cordiality with the United States, with the European, Asian and African countries and with the nonaligned countries. We are in continuous dialogue with all and we are continually moving in every field so as to win more friends and more support for our just causes, God willing.

Question: The security and safety of the Gulf has become one of the most important issues of the 1980's and with the appearance of disagreements over this issue between the two superpowers the anxiety mounts. What is your highness' vision about the means that would guarantee the achievement of the security and safety of the Gulf from a Gulf, Arab and world point of view and how can the dangers of intervention in the Gulf be lessened?

Answer: We have previously declared our views and stance toward what they call the security of the Gulf. We have no objection to reiterating it once more. There is nothing in the Gulf that is threatening our security, nor the security of others. The security of the Gulf is threatened from without. The region falls within a number of strategic regions threatened by the international conflicts which [word indistinct] seek a breach to kindle it. The truth is that the security of the Gulf depends on its states and inhabitants being left to run their own affairs and their everyday life and their right to utilize the natural resources which God has bestowed on them in the service of their countries and for the happiness of all mankind.

Question: Despite the continuous promotion of Saudi-North Yemen relations in the 1970's, some slanderous statements appear every now and then about the nature of these relations. What is the kingdom's attitude toward this and how can the two leaderships and the two peoples achieve cohesion in a manner that will stop the perpetrators of such slanderous statements?

Answer: One can talk a great deal about relations between the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and the Yemen Arab Republic. Relations between the two countries have always been a model of relations between two neighboring countries. [passage indistinct]

UAE

PRESIDENT VISITS PAKISTAN, TALKS WITH ZIAUL HAQ

For Pakistani coverage of the visit to Pakistan by President Shaykh Zayid ibn Sultan Al Nuhayyan, see the Pakistani section of the 23 January South Asia DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

PDRY

CHAIRMAN VIEWS U.S. PRESENCE IN GULF AREA

LD221914 Aden Domestic Service in Arabic 1245 GMT 22 Jan 81 EA

[Interview granted by 'Ali Nasir Muhammad, chairman of the PDRY Supreme People's Council Presidium to the Beirut paper AS-SAFIR, published "last Wednesday"]

[Excerpts] [Question] Your Excellency, Mr Chairman. World and Arab progressive circles have pointed out the reactionary alliance existing between the regimes of Somalia and As-Sadat under the auspices of the American economic-military umbrella, just as they pointed out that striking at the two revolutionary regimes in Democratic Yeman and Ethiopia was one of the direct aims of this alliance.

Recent information has confirmed more than once the presence of nuclear missiles inside Somali territory against your country and against Ethiopia. Do you consider likely the use of these nuclear warheads against you in effect; and do you believe in the possibility of the United States resorting to its nuclear strike force to confront more complicated situations that may occur in future in the Gulf and Arab Peninsula areas?

[Answer] The alliance between As-Sadat's regime in Egypt and some other regimes in the same camp, such as the Qabus regime in Oman, is an alliance directed against the revolutionary and progressive regimes in the Middle East region. The existence of this alliance under the military and economic umbrella of American imperialism increases its danger to the liberation and revolutionary movement in the region and it threatens peace, for the United States recently embarked on establishing military bases in Egypt, Somalia and Oman and it obtained military facilities in the territory of these countries.

There is information indicating that the special attention being given by the American administration to its military agreement with Somalia is linked with the aggressive intentions of American imperialism toward the peoples and countries of the region. This is what has been confirmed by numerous indications that appeared in the light of Kissinger's visit to the region and his tour of the capitals of Egypt, Israel, Saudi Arabia, Somalia and Oman.

In all cases I say America can continue the perpetration of crimes against peace, but it cannot prevent our peoples from confronting these crimes by all means. It will be our right to take and follow all possible means to confront the imperialist presence and prevent the realization of its dangers.

Regardless of whether the information on the presence of nuclear missiles in Somalia is correct or not, we realize the aggressive nature of the United States and the conspiracies it hatches against progressive regimes. Insofar as we recognize the aims of the American military presence in these countries, we in Democratic Yemen stress that whoever tries to resort to military force against our people will meet with large-scale military resistance. At that time we will not be alone. Suporters of national independence, sovereignty and peace in the world will stand beside us.

[Question] Is your call for the elimination of foreign military bases from the neighboring areas understood to be the beginning of a political activity by you in this direction or is it to reassure the Gulf states of the nonexistence of an alleged threat to these states from Democratic Yemen, and to eliminate the illusion, which some conspirators tried to plant in the minds of some people, about a Soviet military presence in Aden?

[Answer] We have no need for evidence to place before others to confirm the nonexistence of Soviet bases in our country. There is no longer anything that can hide on the surface of the earth, for military science has developed and the sky is full of spying and monitoring devices. The Americans, who recruited their agents to justify their presence in some countries, do not realize that there is no Soviet military presence in Democratic Yemen. The brothers know that, and those who use their false propaganda campaigns against us to justify their alignment toward America and their renunciation of their national sovereignty know that, too. But their circumstances make them resort to anything, including the falsification of information and publication of lies.

Beyond the call to our Arab brothers, we aim to benefit from the Soviet initiative for peace which aims at eliminating military bases and protecting our peoples from the danger of foreign intervention. Beyond this call, we aim at providing a firm and strong basis for the security and stability of our peoples and for normal relations of equality among the states of this region--relations based on mutual respect and on discarding methods of overt and covert intrigue and conspiracy by which some sides have been characterized in their inter-Arab relations.

YAR

FOREIGN MINISTER RETURNS FROM ISLAMIC MEETING

JN221733 San'a' Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Foreign Affairs Minister Brother 'Ali Lutfi ath-Thawr returned to San'a' from At-Ta'if this afternoon after participating in the Islamic foreign ministers' conference.

AS-SADAT ADDRESSES ECONOMIC CONFERENCE IN ASWAN

NC230720 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2120 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] Cairo, 22 Jan (MENA)--The Arab television this evening screened the proceedings of the meeting which took place yesterday in Aswan between President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat and members of the international economic conference. The following is the text of President as-Sadat's speech at that meeting:

When the canal was reopened in 1975, all the world was of the opinion that after a closure of 8 years the canal would not be able to offer anything to Egypt; I mean it would not have a significant impact on the Egyptian economy for a long time. However, the canal generated a revenue of $400 million in the first year.

I remember the time when we were about to be declared bankrupt. McNamara asked me to send him $1 million immediately. It took us an entire week to arrange this sum of money. In 1976, the canal gave us $400 million. As you know, since then the revenues from the canal have been increasing. For our part, we not only reopened the canal but, at the same time, we began a plan to widen and deepen the canal in two stages. The first stage, which was completed in December last year, would allow 150,000-ton ships to pass with their full load and 250,000-ton ships while they are empty.

I am not an economist, but let me tell you this: As soon as I took office in 1971, I established the first international bank in Egypt. I gave orders that this bank should not encounter the procedural complications which we had been applying for the past 20 years. That was my aim in 1971.

I have always been telling my people to look at what happened in Germany after World War II. We know that it is the habit of the Americans that when they fight, they really fight; and when they befriend, they befriend. You recall what happened to Germany when 1,000 planes used to raid it daily. They wanted to teach Germany a lesson. They also did the same thing to Japan when they dropped the atomic bomb. However, afterward they made the Marshall plan for Germany. I do not cease telling my people that if the German Government had planned to reconstruct the country alone, it would not have succeeded until now. However, because of the Marshall plan and the banks, every German who took a dollar [?had] to offer something in return for this dollar. This is the example which I have been giving to my people through the past 10 years.

As I told you, I established the first bank in 1971. The open-door policy only began in 1974; that is, after the October war. Meanwhile, I know that you are facing some difficulties. However, I affirm to you that Deputy Premier Dr 'Abd ar-Razzaq 'Abd al-Majid truly represents the policy of this country and also represents me in my capacity as prime minister. I know that you are facing some difficulties, such as high prices, family planning and high energy costs. I know all of this and I am doing my best, in cooperation with my aides, to surmount these difficulties.

Regarding subsidies, I know that it is a serious problem not only for you but also for me. I know that if we continue at this pace we will become bankrupt because the subsidies will reach billions of pounds, not just millions. Well, we fully realize this but let me ask you to understand our problems, particularly since this is not only Egypt's problem but the problem of all the developing states. Prices have become an important political issue in view of the high cost of living. It is necessary to coordinate between prices and wages. We are concerned with this and are following this course. As for subsidies, half of the subsidies go for loaves of bread. If I turn the bakeries into automatic bakeries, according to modern technology, I would save more than half of the subsidies which I pay for bread. This is what I am doing now.

As for family planning, we are making efforts in this field. But it is a delicate question, particularly for the illiterates in the country who consider children a source of labor in view of the high wages. The peasants complain about the high cost of labor, although we have the cheapest labor in the world, whether in industry or in agriculture.

I take this opportunity to tell you that we fully realize what is troubling you. We are doing all we can. And, as I told my people yesterday, as a result of the new oil discoveries and prices [sentence incomplete]. And now let me tell you that I am not at all happy with the high prices for oil, although, to a certain extent, they have helped our balance of payments.

However, I am not happy with this increase in the price of petroleum because we want to build our country according to the most modern technology. You have the most modern technology and whenever the petroleum producers increase the prices, the other side increased the price of its products--the price of technology required to build our country.

I do not have to say that we are partners and that we must share the responsibility for establishing a new order. We must avoid world inflation caused by the competition between producers and consumers, which results in higher prices. This could lead to a continued rise in the prices of commodities, particularly foodstuff. I know that the problem of foodstuff prices is a matter of concern to you, but it is of even more concern to me.

In a few days time, precisely on 29 January, I will announce a program, the starting point of which I have sought throughout the past 3 years: How to begin intensified cultivation, not by the old methods to reclaim the land, but by the most modern technology. After 3 years, we and some of our friends in the state of Arizona agreed on the starting point. We started an experimental project in As-Salihiyah. The day 29 January will mark the start of the green revolution, as I call it. We will then start the intensified cultivation. I would like you to see this pioneer project when we start intensified cultivation in our deserts.

Experiments have proven that the soil of some of our deserts is among the best in the world. We have the soil, climate, peasants and workers. You may perhaps know that water flows from behind this High Dam into the Mediterranean at an average of 60 billion cubic meters each year because the turbines must function to generate power. We have the water, climate, peasants and the soil. What we lack is modern technology, which I am seeking to acquire, particularly because I have always been dreaming of the Western thrust which established the U.S. economic system.

Let me tell you that I received last week an envoy of my friend Ceausescu, the president of Romania who had attended the Moscow meeting which discussed the Polish problem. I was keen on knowing what happened there. I personally believe that the Soviet Union, sooner or later, has no alternative but to interfere there. This is a question of life or death for the Soviet Union in that camp. President Ceausescu's envoy told me what took place at the meeting. They did their best to ratify an agreement in order to avoid Soviet interference on the basis that if the adoption of any measures becomes necessary, then this would be an affair concerning the Poles themselves, because neither the Soviet Union nor any Warsaw Pact state has the right to interfere. I do not believe this and I think there will be interference. This is the reality in simple words. However, the Romanian envoy told me something extremely important about what is behind the Polish crisis and what started it. There are many things behind this crisis, as you know. The system itself; that is, the economic situation they reached, and I mean the Marxist economy and its failure are behind it. The envoy told me that the main reason for the Polish crisis is that agriculture and food production were neglected.

When I was in Romania I found out that President Ceausescu had laid a solid foundation for the production of food because it is possible to defer anything, but not food for man. Therefore, this is the main reason for the crisis in Poland.

I told my people that before his death, Lenin left a will which can be summed up in two words--electricity and steel. Well, let there be electricity and steel, but together with three daily meals. When I met [the late] President Tito for the first time after our revolution 26 years ago, there was a dispute between him and Stalin. The essence of this dispute was independence. Concerning COMECON, the Soviet Union wanted at that time, as it wants now, every member state to produce a certain commodity and leave the key to everything in the hands of the Soviet Union. Romania rejected this as Tito rejected it earlier. President Tito told us about this disagreement and said that Stalin was fighting him and sending leaflets in bottles by way of the Danube. He gave us all these details and told us about a common proverb which showed that he was very intelligent. He said: Stalin talks about socialism, but what is socialism without food for the people?

Well, we need you to solve our problems. I told my people that once I sent word to an Arab brother telling him that I was prepared to mortgage the Suez Canal revenues, estimated then at $500 million annually, for 10 years and ask for $5 billion to implement the essential projects in my country and solve the problems of my people, and that I will not accept this treatment from you. This was my position in 1976 and before Petroleum Minister 'Izz ad-Din Hilal announced the revenues we will receive from the new petroleum discoveries. I was not prepared to wait 2 or 3 years until the production from the new wells is sold on the market. We have these discoveries which constitute a reserve asset for us. This was announced here and it was also announced by the Mobil Oil Company in the United States.

From now on I do not want to waste one moment. That is why I told you what I will do on 29 January, something that Dr 'Abd ar-Razzaq 'Abd al-Majid did not announce to you. I sent for him last Monday and asked him if we needed to mortgage the Suez Canal or oil revenues or anything. I have no objection to this because I want to begin my program to achieve two main aims: food production and housing. Food production will automatically lead to solving the housing problem. Why? Because food production means new land, new societies and new opportunities. It also means sufficient land for every individual to build his house in the new land.

As you know, we need fertilizers. You know our position on fertilizers. The fertilizer plant that Egypt and the FRG built at Abu Qir--which Genscher and I inaugurated last summer--is run by gas that was found by the French in the Mediterranean near Abu Qir. Egypt and Japan will also begin a wrought iron project [hadid isfanji].

Thus, regarding the food problem, there will not only be intensive agriculture but their will also be fertilizer production in which we will be self-sufficient before the end of 1982, and export the surplus around 1983. I do not know the specific date, but the agriculture minister can be more specific than I in this field. We are working for self-sufficiency and export.

As for cement, which is connected with the housing problem, we are also working for self-sufficiency which will be achieved in 1983. After that we will export cement. We will begin intensive agriculture in the next few days to produce food. My main aim is to produce 90 percent of our people's food needs because we used to do this. As in the case of the COMECON, we neglected agriculture and opted for electricity and steel until we reached the point where we are today. We can achieve self-sufficiency in food, except for wheat, as we had in the past. This will be our sublime aim until 1985.

During my meeting with Dr 'Abd al-Majid last Monday I asked him if we had funds or if we needed a loan, a mortgage or anything. I told him this because I do not want to wait 3 years for all that we want. We must not waste a moment because at the end of the next 3 years food production will certainly have changed Egypt's economy. As I told you we will have self-sufficienty.

The second project on which I have given instructions to various ministers is to change the irrigation system in the old valley. Until this moment we are still irrigating by inundation. Maybe no one can believe that we use 10,000 cubic meters of water to irrigate 1 feddan. This is unbelievable For this reason I have instructions to the agriculture minister last year to begin tests. By 1985, the whole irrigation system must change from inundation to one of sprinklers, or any other system. Fortunately the agriculture minister visited Israel and found out that they developed a new sprinkling irrigation system that saves more than the ordinary sprinkling system. Directly after the agriculture minister's visit, I gave orders to form a special group to study the report which the agriculture minister submitted to me. I consider this report to be one of the best I have received because it is connected with the sphere that attracts my main attention at present; namely, food production and housing.

These were my first instructions. My next instructions were connected with our ambitious project in the Qattara depression in which we have to dig a canal from the Mediterranean to the Qattara depression. We will use the difference in elevation to generate electricity, as is the case in the High Dam. Our plan is drawn so as to meet our needs until the year 2000. In addition to the ambitious Qattara project, we intend to establish 8 nuclear reactors to generate electrity. For this reason the People's Assembly ratified the nuclear energy agreement in order to begin, without wasting any time, our program to build 8 reactors, the Qattara depression project, food reproduction, housing, new land and new societies. These projects are extremely important for Egypt's future, for energy and for other pertinent projects such as the production of fertilizers, food, cement and ferro concrete for housing. You can see these projects for yourself, on the spot, not just on paper. I wanted to give you a glimpse of what I personally know as prime minister about the situation, because I am not only a president of the republic, but also prime minister. We apply a presidential system. I may not be specialized in economics, but at least I have common sense and I seek help from experts such as Dr 'Abd 'ar-Razzaq 'Abd al-Majid. We also have many experts in the field.

MUBARAK ADDRESSES NDP POLITICAL RALLY 22 JAN

NC222211 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] Replying to questions by those attending a political rally held in Sawhaj Governorate today, Vice President and National Democratic Party Secretary General Husni Mubarak said that the Middle Eastern question was receiving priority handling by the new U.S. administration; that Egypt would regain the remaining territory occupied in 1967 next April [as heard]; and that Egypt insisted on a comprehensive solution to the Palestinian issue and on the right of self-determination for the Palestinian people.

His excellency described the so-called Jordanian option as a Jordanian bargaining operation on the Palestinian issue.

Husni Mubarak said that the Arabs did not have an alternative to the measures that Egypt had taken for solving the Palestinian issue and that in their hearts they supported the Egyptian solution. He said that the European initiative was a general view that supported Egypt in its steps to solve the Palestinian issue.

Husni Mubarak denounced the blood being shed by the Iranian and Iraqi peoples and described the Libyan-Chadian issue as a Soviet plan that was being implemented by Al-Qadhdhafi, who was dreaming of an empty leadership.

Husni Mubarak affirmed that Sudan's security was also Egypt's and that Egypt would not permit any interference in Sudanese affairs or aggression against it.

'ALI DENIES EGYPT TO GRANT U.S. NUCLEAR BASE

NC231042 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1025 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] Cairo, 23 Jan (MENA)--Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Kamal Hasan 'Ali has categorically denied yesterday's news agency reports that Egypt has agreed to give the United States a nuclear base in Egypt. In its Friday edition, AL-AHRAM quotes 'Ali as saying that it was illogical for Egypt to give bases at all and that nobody has made such a request to Egypt.

The deputy prime minister and foreign minister adds: How would Egypt grant bases of this kind when it advocates turning the Middle East into a nuclear weapons free zone? It is also illogical that Egypt should embark on such a step when Israel has approved at the United Nations the draft resolution on turning the Middle East into a nuclear weapons free zone. 'Ali goes on to say that Egypt considers atomic energy should only be used for peaceful purposes.

MINISTRY REPORTS CHADIAN EMBASSY STATEMENT

NC222018 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1918 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] Cairo, 22 Jan (MENA)--A responsible source in the Foreign Ministry has stated that the ministry today received a statement from the Chadian Embassy in Cairo that denounced the projected Libyan-Chadian merger as an attempt by Al-Qadhdhafi to impose a fait accompli and annex Chad in violation of the Lagos agreements and the desires of the Chadian people; that called on all secotrs of the Chadian people to oppose this Libyan treachery, that said that Al-Qadhdhafi's steps in Africa threaten not only Chad but all of Africa; and that expressed thanks to all the African states that stood on the side of Chad in its ordeal and that denounced the Libyan plot.

The responsible source said that the attitude of the Chadian Embassy in Cairo truly expressed the Chadian people's feelings, which the Libyan military occupation was vainly trying to suppress, and was also fully in line with the recent Lome conference resolutions, which called for an immediate withdrawal of Libyan forces from Chad preliminary to holding free elections, which would result in the formation of a legitimate government in the country.

HUSAYN INTERVIEWED ON WAR, U.S., MIDDLE EAST

JN200813 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1908 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Undated interview granted by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to Arab journalist Nasir ad-Din an-Nashashibi, published in Kuwait AL-ANBA' on 19 January 1981--read by announcer]

[Excerpts] Question: Was King Husayn ibn Talal perhaps the first to support you in this war?

Answer: Of course. I hestitated at first in telling him about the details of our crisis with the Iranians lest King Husayn feel that we wanted him to help us in this conflict. I told him this personally when I received the first telephone call from him. In this conversation he encouraged me to tell him: By God Abu 'Abdallah [King Husayn of Jordan], I wanted to tell you about the details of the entire situation. However, I was afraid that some people would think that we were doing so in search of assistance we might need. I thank you for your fraternal telephone call and am proud of your support, my brother.

Question: What would your stand be if Syria again masses its troops on the Jordanian border and if the situation explodes?

Answer: At any rate, we wish King Husayn every good, victory and happiness. We consider King Husayn to be our brother, while others are not part of us. We will act in light of this stand.

Question: Who bombed the nuclear research and test center in Iraq 2 months ago?

Answer: Several phenomena have emerged but the time has not yet come to reveal them. However, I tell you that it was Iran, plus another non-Iranian force, which bombed these nuclear centers [as heard]. This other force owns the same type of Iranian Phantoms. I specifically mean Israel. Some of the planes which bombed these centers and which we shot down and whose Iranian pilots we captured exposed Iran's participation in the operation. However, we were not able to find the pilots of some other planes which participated in the bombing because the safety pin in the plane which is supposed to save the pilot in case he is shot down was removed, leading to the deaths of the pilots so that their identities would be concealed. These other planes were Israeli and their pilots were Israelis.

Question: Is the production of nuclear weapons part of Iraq's calculations?

Answer: Brother, Iraq's basic calculations are the use of the atom in the service of Iraq and the Arab nation. There is no scope for any talk about the use of the atom for military purposes because the people who are talking about the atom do not care to go into this delicate subject, particularly since they know the extent of Iraq's possession of modern technology and its methods and development. This does not allow us to go into the details of this delicate subject. I tell you, however, that we are using the atom for peaceful purposes and that we cling to this principle. Moreover, we are the ones who proposed to the United Nations that it issue an international resolution denuclearizing the Middle East area.

Question: Israel, however, says that it is ready to sign any agreement that stipulates the nonproliferation of nuclear arms. What is your opinion?

Answer: This is not enough and does not satisfy us. Israel must say that it is ready to destroy all its nuclear weapons. We understand the deceit inherent in their saying that they are ready to sign a nuclear nonproliferation agreement after they have already produced and own atomic bombs and now do not want such nuclear know-how to come to Iraq or other Arabs.

Israel should agree to open all its doors to an international investigatory body that will look into all the nuclear weapons and nuclear capabilities it has. Israel should then destroy all these weapons. We as Arabs are ready to give a written pledge to the entire world that we will never produce any nuclear weapons.

Question: Mr President, is it not enough for Israel to announce its readiness not to allow the proliferation of nuclear arms through it and to it?

Answer: We demand the application of all the UN laws and resolutions pertaining to this subject. Israel has to apply these laws and resolutions. We are not producing atomic bombs but we will not allow Israel to prevent us from attaining a technological level that will enable us to produce nuclear energy in a scientific manner commensurate with its development and with the development of our life, capabilities, mentality and morale.

Question: We hope that the recent suicide raid on the nuclear research centers in Iraq failed to hit these centers.

Answer: Brother Nasir, we have already said and will always reiterate that the men who had these capabilities in the past have these capabilities today and will have them in the future in case these centers are hit or destroyed. I assure you that it is no longer possible to impose a siege on the Arab nation regarding this subject. We possess the political mind, the economic capabilities and the required international relations to enable us to attain the missing link in the field of nuclear work no matter how long the road is.

Question: Mr President, is Iraq ready to contribute to and participate in a just solution to the Palestinian issue?

Answer: I have already answered this question in part. If by just solution you mean technical alternatives inherent in the context of the Camp David accords, for instance, then such a solution is unacceptable and rejected. We are fully prepared tomorrow morning to accept a solution that restores to Iraq and the Arabs full rights in Palestine without bloodshed. We are even ready to sign such a solution on behalf of the Arabs if they ask us to.

Question: Is the United States' friendship with Israel the cause behind your continued severance of diplomatic relations with the United States?

Answer: Yes, by God, they were severed for this reason.

Question: When will these relations be restored between you?

Answer: They will be restored when we realize that their restoration is in the interest of the Arabs and Iraq.

Question: Is it not one of the conditions of the diplomatic game to placate the United States as long as you are at war with Iran?

Answer: We understand the international diplomatic game but we will not play it. It might be beneficial for us on the diplomatic level if we restored our diplomatic relations with the United States. However, viewing matters with a wide strategic perspective, we want the United States to understand that we are not the type of people who play or like games. We do not want to belittle America's might or its international importance, which it is exercising as one of the most important two superpowers in this world. I wish the United States would view Arab rights from an angle different from that of its shameful bias toward Israel. It would find that our relations with it would become positive, fruitful and effective. However, when America's relationship with the Arabs becomes positive and its views on our rights becomes just, we might restore our diplomatic relations with it.

Question: So far, this has not happened, has it?

Answer: No, it has not happened.

Question: Is it not enough for the United States to be the enemy of your Persian enemy?

Answer: No, this is not enough.

Question: So what is enough?

Answer: One of our terms is not for the United States to befriend the Arabs. But one of our conditions which is sufficient for us at the moment is for the United States to stop befriending Israel at our expense and the expense of Arab rights.

Question: Has the United States made any diplomatic effort to restore your relations with it and if so, have you confronted it with your conditions and concepts for restoring diplomatic relations with it?

Answer: The United States made numerous attempts in this regard and we always replied with this clear answer innumerable times.

Question: When was the last attempt made?

Answer: About 2 months ago, America asked us if we agreed to a meeting between an Iraqi UN representative, for instance, and a U.S. UN representative, or whether we agreed to a visit, for instance, of a U.S. diplomatic representative who would visit us and be received by us, despite the severance of diplomatic relations between us. We answered the United States that we have no objection to this and on any political level it desired on one condition: Such a meeting should be preceded by a process of calculating and assessing its necessity, benefits and dimensions. If one of our diplomats goes to New York and you ask to meet with him, we have no objection on condition that the subject is studied and deductions are prepared about its results. In fact, Carter's Secretary of State Edmund Muskie asked to meet with Iraqi Foreign Minister Sa'dun Hammadi in New York about 2 months ago. The meeting took place despite the severance of diplomatic relations between us.

Question: What was the topic of conversation during the meeting?

Answer: Edmund Muskie, President Carter's secretary of state, raised the subject of the restoration of relations between Iraq and the United States. He tried to clarify to the Iraqi foreign minister the U.S. viewpoint on the so-called Middle East problem. Sa'dun Hammadi also explained our views on this subject. He told the U.S. secretary: When we believe, see and feel that it is in our interest and that of the other Arabs to restore Iraq's diplomatic relations with you, we will do so. I say this openly and before everybody. Otherwise, no, no and no.

Question: Were you optimistic with regard to the new U.S. administration?

Answer: Brother Nasir, the main point is that as a big power, the United States does not amend its policy radically but partially and in the form of merely minor, temporary and transient touches. We are not saying that these touches should not be encouraged or watched or ignored. But we are saying that such touches should not be considered as a radical transformation in U.S. foreign policy. We should encourage any positive transformation that takes place. But we should do so only within relative yardsticks. We should examine any interactions that might result from such a transformation before playing our effective role toward America. The United States has interests in the area and the Arab homeland. If the Arabs had seriously used this method of political and economic pressure against America--and I do not mean merely passively but actively--more radical transformations would have taken place in U.S. policy than have already taken place or are taking place at present.

Question: What is the nature of this pressure, Mr President?

Answer: I mean that the Arabs should clearly and frankly tell America that it is inconceivable and impossible for the U.S. interests in this region to remain unaffected and unharmed while you Americans support Israel and oppose Arab interests.

Question: Mr President, is Iraq prepared to use such language with the United States?

Answer: Undoubtedly, clearly and without hesitation.

Question: Is Iraq prepared to use such pressure against the United States?

Answer: Yes, yes. We have already said this to the United States several times. Iraqi relations with the United States are currently severed due to this particular point.

Question: Is Iraq prepared to use the oil weapon specifically against the United States to force it to support Arab rights?

Answer: In the past, Iraq called on all the Arabs to use the oil weapon in the October war. During this war, Iraq nationalized the U.S. interests in Iraq, including oil. We believe that our dignity behooves us to confront the enemy with all the weapons we have and to confront this enemy's friend with weapons that can paralyze this party's friendship with our enemies.

I am certain that using the right weapon at the right time is the right and only way to attain victories in the battles of diplomacy and politics and in the battles of wars.

Question: I am sure you have heard the cries of the new U.S. administration on the need to [words indistinct] the U.S. power in the world, including the Middle East, in order to regain America's prestige and dignity in the world. What is your opinion?

Answer: The big powers have many aspirations [words indistinct]. However, we as Arabs should not allow America or anybody else to realize their hopes at the expense of the Arabs and to regain their prestige and dignity in the world at the expense of Arab rights and dignity [words indistinct].

Question: Is the granting of military bases or military facilities, as Egyptian President Anwar as-Sadat calls them, to the United States in harmony with the supreme Arab interests?

Answer: I have said no. This does not serve Arab interests. The granting of military bases or facilities to foreign armies puts the Arabs on the table of division and conflicting international interests.

Question: Can I ask you about your opinion on the so-called European initiative on the Middle East Issue?

Answer: We always encourage any foreigner who tries to move from one subject to another to understand Arab issues in their reality. Despite this relative encouragement, however, we do not try to take this understanding as a plan defining our rights. We have frankly said this to the Europeans. There is a long distance between them and the required just solution to the Palestinian issue.

Question: How do you describe your current relations with Britain.

Answer: I say they are normal.

Question: Normal and good?

Answer: I do not describe them as good, but normal.

Question: What about your relations with the United States?

Answer: They are good. [sentence as heard]

Question: What about your relations with the Soviets?

Answer: They are good; let me say they are good.

Question: What do you expect from next week's Islamic conference?

Answer: I would rather choose the word wish rather than expect.

Question: Well, what do you wish for, Mr President?

Answer: I wish that this conference will deepen Islamic bonds.

Question: What is the stand of Turkey, the Muslim neighbor, on your war with Iran?

Answer: Its stand is not adverse or hostile. We have explained the situation to Turkey and its leaders understood matters in their reality.

Question: What about Moscow?

Answer: The Soviet Union is one of the two superpowers to which we are linked with relations of friendship within the context of international friendship. We care for this relationship and friendship.

As far as the United States is concerned, had it been fair and just in its attitude toward the Arabs, the Arab homeland and Iraq would have had an amicable attitude toward it, completely different from our present attitude toward it. Irrespective of the details and calculations, the Soviet Union is adopting a friendly stand in support of Arab issues. Therefore, we care to uphold our relations with the Soviet Union. It is a big power that supports us and sells us the arms for which we ask. This made it incumbent upon us to explain to it the details of our conflict with Iran. We sensed genuine understanding on its part.

Question: Was the Soviet understanding of these matters complete and to the extent we wish for and more?

Answer: There are matters on which we agree with the Soviets and there are other matters on which we differ somewhat. This is normal, isn't it?

Question: What was the effect of the war on Iraqi oil production and prices?

Answer: The prices were not affected by the war but marketing was. Production was affected due to the shortage and the difficulty of export, which dropped due to these circumstances. In view of the circumstances of the current war and its secrecy, however, I cannot reveal to you the rate of reduction in production and exports.

Question: Will you demand some sort of autonomy for the Arabs in Arabistan as a condition for stopping the war?

Answer: We have a Kurdish minority in Iraq to whom we agreed to give autonomy. It is natural for our sentiments to be with any other similar situation in any other country. In Iran there are five different nationalities. If circumstances allow these Iranian minorities to enjoy some form of autonomy, we will accept this and support and bless it because it is in harmony with our way of thinking and policy. However, we in Iraq will not put forward such proposals, since this matter concerns the Iranian peoples themselves.

Question: Why are you doing this on behalf of the Arabs in Arabistan? Is it because you are Arabs, like they are?

Answer: To date, we have not acted in light of this new situation created by this war. We view the subject as a general principle. Therefore, it is natural to feel support for our Arab brothers there, particularly as regards a hostile state with which we are in a state of war. We support and stand alongside any people who seek to gain their rights and self-determination.

Question: Why did not Iraq occupy Abadan? Why did you not occupy Abadan, despite your military ability to do so?

Answer: I assure you, brother, that we have proclaimed a well-known general principle; we did not fight Iran to gain control over or to annex any Iranian land to the Iraqi homeland. We went to the front to fight deep in Iranian territory in order to ward off the evil from the Iraqi towns and the bombs, shelling and terrorism from the Iraqi people who were subjected to the Iranian bombs coming from inside Iran. We went to the front to regain our usurped rights from Iran. Whenever we felt that any military action, such as the occupation of towns for instance, brought us closer to our rights, we immediately occupied this town, as we have already done. The contrary is also true. If we feel that any other military action fulfills our objective, without any military occupation, then we will not occupy anything. I am not closing the door to military occupation or advance but I am saying that the general arena is wide enough to accommodate other nonmilitary actions.

Question: There is always the danger that a certain situation would arise and pave the way for the intervention of the big powers in this war. Do you not take such an eventuality into consideration?

Answer: Intervention by the big powers in one form or another is a possibility that exists. Neither I nor you nor anybody can guarantee that such a possible intervention by any big power will not take place. It is also possible that this war might expand and become fiercer.

Question: Is this in your, that is, Iraq's interest?

Answer: We do not want this but it will not defeat us. All the international calculations will not defeat us. We have calculated for all surprises and they will not defeat us. We have a definite appointment with victory; rather, we have actually scored this victory.

Question: What about your arms deals with France? Were they affected by this war?

Answer: France officially announced that it is committed to and will fully implement all its contracts with and commitments to Iraq. We have no complaints regarding this.

Question: Do you see a direct association between this war and the issue of the hostages held in Iran?

Answer: I in my turn would like to ask you, as an Arab citizen: Do you believe so yourself? You know Iraq well. Iraq can never be in the service of the foreigner. Indeed, Iraq can never be a mere card in the foreigner's hand. I am against any price which the United States might have to pay to Iran for the release of the hostages at Iraq's expense.

We are not helping the United States find a solution to the hostage issue. However, we do not accept that solving this problem should be at our expense. We hope that this will not happen. However, we see the United States winking at us and insinuating that it is ready to have Iraq pay the price for the new U.S.-Iranian relations. We believe that the United States has played a role in this war, our war against Iran.

The United States itself encouraged the outbreak of this war. There are elements in some U.S. circles which encouraged Iran to reach this explosive state with us in order to enable the United States to reassess its calculations and arrange its affairs. Do you not remember the recent statement made by President Carter, in which he said that we are playing the role of invaders in the war with Iran. Indeed he used the word invader.

Question: What is your special philosophy for rule, Mr President?

Answer: My philosophy for rule is that of the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party.

Question: What words would you like to address to the United States now that its new president will be assuming power this week?

Answer: I hope that the United States will understand us. I hope that the United States will understand our right to our issues. I hope that the Arabs will be regarded from a new, intelligent and cultured perspective, which would, in turn, comprehend the Arab nation's new image and psychology. I hope that it will be aware that today's Arabs, with their hopes, pains, apprehensions, revolutions and awareness, are no longer satisfied with half-solutions or half-rights.

Question: What words would you like to address to the Soviet Union?

Answer: I have already addressed my words to the Soviets, as I have always done, through the well known diplomatic channels linking us. Our relations with the Soviets are good and we have an embassy in Moscow. There are always people to convey messages between us.

Question: What words would you like to address to your brothers in the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan?

Answer: My word to beloved Jordan is also my word to every noble and honest Arab citizen who adopts the stand of dignity along with his brothers under such fateful and decisive circumstances without fear or hesitation. I am proud of the Jordanian king, people and government. I have not forgotten nor will ever forget their stand with me. I would like to convey my regards to King Husayn. I wish him dignity and glory and I ask God to grant him success. King Husayn's role in this war will not be forgotten by history.

Question: Iraq's unity with Syria during the past two years was supposed to be the great aspiration which the Arabs would have fulfilled with determination. Such a unity was supposed to be a reply to as-Sadat's capitulation and an alternative to Camp David. However, Mr President, this unity failed. What brought about its failure?

Answer: We seriously sought unity with Syria. We candidly declared, through an official statement to the Syrian reporters in Damascus during the period of the charter, that we did not believe that there had been any serious reasons for differences between us and the Syrian officials in the past. We told them then that the current circumstances following Camp David made it inevitable for us to establish unity with Syria. We told them this clearly and candidly. However, if you want to know the reason for the failure of this project, you have to ask: Who is playing with the issue of unity? Has Iraq ever declared unity with any other state and played with such a holy unity?

As for the other side, all the Arabs know about it. Thus, you can find out who is responsible for the loss of such a beautiful dream.

Question: Egyptian leader Anwar as-Sadat accuses you of heading a bloody regime, which has neither achieved peace for Iraq nor offered an alternative to the Camp David accords. What would you say to this?

Answer: I admit that we are incapable of finding or offering the logical alternative to the Camp David accords which Anwar as-Sadat expects from us, particularly if such an alternative comes as a result of a preference to or relative comparison with the so-called Camp David accords.

However, if such an alternative comes as a result of strategic comparison, then it is clear and well known to us. We have previously told our Arab brothers about such an alternative during the Baghdad summit conference and the Arabs agreed on it. We are still committed to this course. However, if the alternative is only a technical one; namely that we propose a certain project which would be considered better than the projects currently proposed on so-called self-rule or the future of the West Bank or Gaza Strip, then our sole reply would be that we are actually incapable of this and that we do not believe in such relative alternatives, since we want right in its wider historical sense. When we talk about right in its wide historical sense, this does not mean that we are closing our eyes to our surroundings where the Arab nation's potentials or anything else is concerned. I tell you this: It is not important for you to understand what you desire. It is important that you also understand what you are capable of. Also, I tell you that it is not important for us to understand what we desire, and what we are capable of, given our intrinsic capabilities, as long as the required (?wisdom), or goal cannot be achieved without the presence of an international party or a certain international circumstance along with our efforts and capabilities. Thus we do not want to close our eyes to our surroundings in the international arena, be they in the form of trends, realities or developments. This means we do not oppose any step which would be on the right path. However, we shall very firmly oppose any step that would be an alternative to the right path. That is to say that we welcome the restoration of any part of Palestine which we can get, providing we do not pay for it with the rest of Palestine. This would be appreciated by us and the coming generations.

When Anwar as-Sadat or any other demands that we propose a relatively technical alternative to the Camp David accord, an alternative whose content would be solely confined to replacing one paragraph with another or to changing history, we vehemently reply: No. We have no such merchandise, since we do not believe that this is the sound path for the Arab nation to follow in its struggle to seize its rights.

As for our being called bloody in the sense that we proceed to decapitate everyone who betrays this country or its general principles, which the people have the right to enjoy, who deviates from the course of loyalty to this land, its skies, air, people, water and soil, or who cooperates with the foreigner against the interest of his people and country, indeed, we mercilessly and publicly decapitate anyone who is discovered to have perpetrated any of these crimes.

Question: How do you view the end of this war?

Answer: The end comes when Iran becomes perfectly convinced of the ideological and political umbrella to which we have subjected it. This umbrella says that the two sides must adopt the principle which says that force does not entitle someone to illegitimate rights or rights not belonging to him. By the two sides, I do not mean Iraq alone, but Iraq as part of the Arab nation on the one hand, and Iran on the other. Each side returns all that it has occupied by force to the other side. Thus, Iraq's rights to its lands and waters, as defined in international agreements, will be retrieved. The three Arab islands will thus return to their Arab owners; Iran's territory will also return to Iran. These are simply our basic principles with regard to the Arab people, who penetrated hundreds of kilometers into the Iranian territories, thus advancing across rocky, level and mountainous areas.

Nevertheless, we say we are ready to move back and return this land to its people because this penetration is not aimed at keeping lands, but is dictated by security reasons, to defend Iraq's rights and safeguard the Arab nation. We have communicated this to every international, local, Arab or Islamic mediator on every level and always.

Question: Can I ask you about your losses in this war? I would like to know the answer, if this is not a military secret.

Answer: One day I was reading a news bulletin from Damascus Radio, saying that Iraq's losses in the current war amounted to thousands of martyrs. I was restless and asked myself what if tomorrow I told president Hafiz al-Asad: Brother Hafiz: Do you find it too much for Iraq to send thousands of its men to get martyred and die in defense of Iraq and the Arab nation? Does this not inspire appreciation, reverence and respect for Iraq and its army? Is it not a source of our pride that thousands of Iraqis are martyred in the fight against the Persians, whereas you, Brother Hafiz, did not lose more than 138 Syrian martyrs in the 1967 war, after which the Golan was lost? We do not offer martyrs in thousands but in millions, Brother Hafiz. This is a source of pride for us. The important loss is not that of martyrs' blood, but the loss of lands, sovereignty and national dignity. Iraq wants security for its people and the whole Arab nation.

Iran's revolution tried to impose its hegemony over the Arab nation. Iran tried to terrorize Iraq's children. Therefore, we confronted it. They shelled Mandali and Khanaqin and terrorized their children and women. Then they shelled Basra and Al-Faw and tried to move their vehicles into the heart of Baghdad and occupy Iraq. We confronted them regardless of the loss. We have thus defended the Arabs against humiliation and aggression. Had it not been for Iraq and its army, the Iranians would have seized the entire Gulf, moved into the [Arabian] Peninsula and even occupied Iraq itself. Had it not been for Iraq and Iraq's losses, the Arabs would have been humiliated. However, I tell you, Brother Hafiz, that our material and human losses are not more than a small part of the losses of your Iranian allies.

Question: Mr President, some Arabs supported you in this war and others just sent you a cable or telephoned you. Are you pleased with the general Arab stand on this war against Iran?

Answer: No, by God I am not pleased. How can I be pleased when I know that if any other Arab was waging this war, the Iraqi Army's blood would be bleeding side by side with the blood of that Arab army? The Arab blood is required in defense of their and our dignity. Some Arabs expressed, with honor and dignity, their readiness for such a generous offer, such as King Husayn ibn Talal of Jordan. They have thus made the Iraqi Army aware of their sincerity and true feelings. The Iraqi soldier wanted only a few words of encouragement and sympathy. However, I know that Jordan has borders with Israel and that the latter does not want Iraq to achieve any victory. Syria also stands on the borders with Jordan, and Syria and its rulers do not want Iraq to triumph.

Question: Mr President, why don't those in Damascus wish you success?

Answer: If they say that Iraq threatens them, I would say that Iraq has not been weak since our assumption of power. Nevertheless, we have not used our army against them nor against any Arab state. In the sense that our victory has a special meaning, which tells our people in Syria that the Arab individual can be of another type, our reply would be yes. Any Arab army can be like our army and relinquish sectarianism and sectarian calculations based on narrow-mindedness. In Iraq we have several religions, sects and nationalities. Nevertheless, all are fighting with honor and in unified ranks, spirit and sincerity. Our people in Syria may ask themselves and their rulers: Why don't we in Syria do what Iraq's Army is doing against Iran? Why don't we try to learn a lesson from Iraq by which we can liberate the Golan lands? Instead of this, Syria's rulers have regrettably behaved against logic, and contrary to what they are requested to do, in order to liberate their dear land from Israel. I tell them: May God forgive you.

Question: Sir, how do you explain the rest of the stands--stands I talked about; namely, that some only sent a cable or telephoned you?

Answer: Each has his own private circumstances, which I can understand, but they are incapable of justifying their stands. Some whisper shyly that they are with us and say shyly: We hope you are getting along well. I am proud of the stands adopted by King Husayn, the YAR and Mauritania. However, I again say, had one of our brothers been fighting in our place, Iraq's blood, army and potentials would have been placed at the disposal of this brother.

HAMMADI DISCUSSES RELATIONS WITH SYRIA, WAR

JN221018 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0920 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] Kuwait, 22 Jan (INA)--Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi has reiterated that the Iraqi-Syrian dispute is not transient. Under no circumstances, he added, will Iraq accept any plots by any side, particularly Syria, against it. He said that Iraq was surprised by Syria's plots in 1979, at the time when the all-out and historical unity measures had made big strides. He pointed out that Iraq is against the solving of Arab differences through insincere methods, adding that this should take place on a sound and strong basis; namely, Arab solidarity, which is bound to boost the spirit of joint struggle against the Zionist enemy.

In a press statement published by the Kuwaiti newspaper AS-SIYASAH today, Dr Hammadi criticized the Syrian Government's attitude toward the Iraqi-Iranian war. He said that this attitude is not confined to supporting Iran but has gone further: Giving Iran military aid. He asserted that Iraq will fight alongside the Syrian people against the Zionist enemy with all its forces and military capabilities. He said that Iraq is prepared to sacrifice the blood of its sons to this end.

The Iraqi minister said that Iraq will never abandon its rights for which it has fought. This is Iraq's permanent and constant stand despite the duration and losses of the war. He added that Iraq will not be concerned over Iran's unity should the latter insist on its hostility against Iraq. He pointed out that Iraq's losses are much less than those of Iran due to the clear Iraqi military superiority.

He emphasized that the Iraqi Army can occupy more Iranian cities but sees no justification to offer human losses for the sake of propaganda and moral purposes.

Dr Hammadi described the suspension of Egypt's membership in the nonaligned bloc as a pan-Arab and Islamic demand. He said that the Egyptian regime is stabbing the pan-Arab issues.

Dr Hammadi called for abiding by the bases of joint Arab action, adding that these joint bases neither embarrass anybody nor mean one's surrender to another.

Further Report

JN221032 Doha QNA in Arabic 0955 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] Kuwait, 22 Jan (QNA)--Iraqi Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi has said that great progress has been made on the demarcation of borders between Iraq and Kuwait and that the discussion is still continuing to reach solutions satisfactory to the two countries.

In a statement published today by the Kuwaiti newspapers AS-SIYASAH and AR-RA'Y AL-'AMM, Dr Hammadi added: We always based our concept on a pan-Arab principle regarding the demarcation of borders between Iraq and Kuwait and Iraq and Jordan because border disputes among Arab countries can happen at any time. However, solving such disputes can take place through dialogue and not by resorting to force, violence or arms.

The Iraqi foreign minister said that resolving these disputes should take place on a sound and strong basis; namely, Arab solidarity, which is bound to boost the spirit of the joint struggle against the Zionist enemy.

FOREIGN MINISTER HAMMADI RETURNS FROM AT-TA'IF

JN221703 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1700 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Baghdad, 22 Jan (INA)--Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi returned here today after taking part in the Islamic foreign ministers conference.

BAGHDAD COMMENTARIES IN AZERBAIJANI LANGUAGE

Iran's Economic Situation

GF181344 Baghdad International Service in Azerbaijani 1900 GMT 17 Jan 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Iranian Prime Minister Mohammad 'Ali Raja'i is a stupid man. Had he been experienced in international affairs, or had he possessed a certain degree of [word indistinct] that an ordinary man enjoys, we would have said it a long time ago. Raja'i is stupid because he carelessly interfers in everything.

When referring to the monetary crisis in Iran Raja'i talks about the matter as it it is not important. However, he knows that the shortage of funds is the cause of the crisis. He also knows that difficulties arising from the transfer of Iran's (?assets) from one place to another have contributed to the crisis. What is the solution to the monetary crisis in Iran?

The value of any country's currency is related to its economic strength. The following factors influence the value of money.

1. Exports. What are Iran's main exports to foreign countries? It is common knowledge that, as admitted by the (?reactionary) Iranian administration, this country is not receiving dollars, yen, marks, pounds or francs from foreign countries. Since Iran has no foreign currency, the government cannot buy anything from the outside--that is to say food, medicine and military supplies. Therefore, no matter how much money the Iranian Government prints it will not be able to resolve the problems that have arisen with the outbreak of war.

2. The need for (?gold). There must be (?gold) in a country in addition to money. The illiterate Iranian clergymen have sold this country's (?gold) in the Gulf and West European markets at a very low price. As a result, they do not have enough (?gold) to combat the division in Iran.

A sound national stability also influences the value of currency. It is common knowledge at a number of business establishments and factories have been destroyed in Iran as a result of the war. Many others have had to reduce their production. Under the circumstances, Iran's currency has lost its value.

It is common knowledge that the financial strength of any country is based on its economic strength, but stupid Raja'i has not understood this. He believes he can resolve Iran's problems by printing paper money. Why have the illiterate administrators in Iran failed to ask themselves why some countries are wealthy and others poor? If Raja'i were right, poor countries would have printed billions of paper money and become rich. The truth is that unless a country's currency is supported by the (?gold) it owns, the value of this currency will drop and the price of every item will increase. These are the facts behind the monetary crisis in Iran.

3. The Iranian Government must use the assets possessed by its citizens.

4. The governor of the Central Bank of Iran, Nowbari, has stated that the 6 billion dollars would last for only 6 months in Iranian hands. If Iran really possessed this amount of money it would only meet its needs for 3 months during the war. The Iranian administrators' intention of prolonging the war surprises us.

Iraq, on the other hand, has no anxiety over its economic situation. Under the circumstances, how will the reactionary Iranian administrators provide [word indistinct], flour, sugar and medicine to their own people? How will these administrators pay the salaries of the Iranian citizens? How will they meet the needs of the army? According to the Iranian Government, the people of Iran will not receive salaries after 6 months, and the markets will be devoid of foodstuffs. It is because of this that the Iranian people are preparing to stock basic needs before they disappear from the market.

This is the economic situation in Iran. We do not know if Raja'i has realized this situation. Perhaps we should send him an adviser.

Overthrow of Khomeyni

GF191922 Baghdad International Service in Azerbaijani 1900 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] Noble gentlemen, the fire [military power] of Iran, the defender of the independence and territorial integrity of this country is diminishing under the extinguishing pressure of the war. The fire of Iran is being torn apart and thus perishing. What we have said is neither a report nor speculation, nor can it be characterized as being based on occupationist and aggressive intentions. It is the bitter and horrifying truth.

Contrary to Abolhasan Bani-Sadr's useless and futile remarks on the Iranian fire and the military situation, the cruel administrators of Iran are incapable of providing even the basic needs of their troops--that is to say foodstuffs, military supplies and equipment, and, even if the situation should become intolerable, they would deliberately refrain from supplying military and other requirements of the Iranian troops for the sake of their dark and inauspicious aims.

At a time when Iraqi troops have not lost but only gained in the battlefronts, we declare, in the name of humanity and good neighborly relations, that prolonging this war is futile and serves no end. The Iranian and Iraqi peoples are Muslim. They have been neighbors for centuries. Therefore, for the sake of the historic ties between the two countries and for preventing the disappearance of the fire of Iran, we declare that Iraq is against prolonging the war. Why does the Iranian nation remain silent in the face of such tragedy? You must agree that only one person, and we repeat, the menace of the century, Khomeyni, made tragic and horrifying plans on behalf of 40 million people and put them into effect. Don't you know that Khomeyni is endeavoring to prolong this fratricidal war for personal vengeance and for preventing Iraq from having superior military power over Iran? Why do you permit the leaders of the Tehran administration to wage their personal and stubborn war against a revolutionary country, which has repeatedly stated that it does not covet even an inch of Iranian territory?

The illiterate and reactionary administrators of Tehran want to continue their shameful existence for the sake of the interests of certain circles through the presidency of Abolhasan Bani-Sadr. Even if we turn the whole of Iran into Karbala [Hell], the administrators of Tehran and Qom will mislead you by unfounded reports presented in the form of good news.

Iranian brothers, the Government of Iran has announced that it does not fear to prolong the war. But if the administrators of Iran maintain their vagrancy and [word indistinct] and continue fighting, Iraq will have to reciprocate with all its might.

Iraq does not want to prolong the war despite the fact that the armed forces of this country are the victors. The administrators of Iran are forcing President Bani-Sadr to continue waging war even if he does so reluctantly. Iran needs a strong and [word indistinct] fire. At a time when the Iranian armed forces should maintain their strength and effective influence in the face of imperialist plots threatening the existence of Iran, the mullahs do not refrain from implementing treacherous plots against the people. They want the Iranian fire to perish and disappear.

We ask the whole world why Iranian officials are reluctant to reciprocate to the peaceful mission of the UN representative, Olof Palme, between Iraq and Iran? Why do they not heed to the resolutions adopted at the conference of Islamic and [word indistinct] leaders.

The Iranian people must follow the developments closely. You must think and you must pull yourselves together. You must throw away the bloodstained book of the Khomeyni clique, a book which has been held in hand for years on end against Iran and its people. You must overthrow them and realize how many people they have sacrificed in order to destroy Iran, to prevent Iranians from progression and to exert influence over the Iranian armed forces. Aren't all the satanic and devilish accomplishments and [words indistinct] within the satanic aims of Khomeyni? Yes our dear brothers, these aims belong to satan Khomeyni. These aims are horrifying, dangerous, bloody, disastrous and dramatic.

We declare that Khomeyni wants Iran and its people to perish. He even wants Iran's name to be erased from history. Our Muslim sisters and brothers, we say it clearly that Khomeyni is our cruel and sworn enemy. The removal of Khomeyni will create an opportunity for us to work together to eradicate the times of grief and disaster and to restore our historic and fraternal friendship.

ARMED FORCES COMMAND ISSUES COMMUNIQUE NO 224

JN221728 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1705 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Communique No 224 issued Iraqi Armed Forces General Command on 22 January 1981]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate:

The outcome of our armed forces' activities in the operational sectors last night and today was as follows:

I. Known enemy losses:

A. An enemy force was sighted near our positions in the Sar-e Pol-e Zahab area. It was engaged with artillery and mortars and forced to flee after leaving behind eight dead.
B. Five dead in Gilan-e Gharb area.
C. Destruction of one armored personnel carrier near our positions in Sayf Sa'd area.
D. Our units engaged the enemy in Mehran area, killing seven and destroying one gun and one observation post.
E. One armored personnel carrier and one vehicle were destroyed in Khafajiyah [Susangerd] area.
F. Our units engaged enemy concentrations in the Abadan area, inflicting the following losses: One dead and five vehicles, one loaded with enemy personnel and two with hardware, destroyed. Two excavators and three stockpiles of hardware were also destroyed.

Thus, total known enemy losses are: 21 dead and the destruction of 6 vehicles, 1 loaded with personnel and 2 with hardware; 2 armored personnel carriers; 1 gun; 1 observation post; 2 excavators and 3 stockpiles of hardware.

II. Our losses: Two martyrs.

[Signed] Armed Forces General Command, 22 January 1981

COMMENTARY RIDICULES IRANIAN OFFICIALS STATEMENT

JN211815 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Excerpts] A few days ago Jamshid (Haqqu), under secretary of the Persian enemy's Foreign Ministry, made a statement which was published by the Iranian paper MIZAN. What is new is not the statement but (Haqqu) himself. The statements made by the Persian authorities' [word indistinct] do not go beyond the framework of the conflict currently existing among this regime's axes and groups, which are struggling for seats and positions.

Jamshid (Haqqu) tried to use other than the language of threats, arrogance and [word indistinct], which characterizes the statements of others among the racist Tehran rulers.

Perhaps his was an attempt to distinguish himself in the midst of the clamor being raised by everyone else.

Let us listen to his statement. He expressed the belief that the Iranian leaders do not show enough realism in their dealings with international issues. This poor minister actually wants these leaders to tackle international problems. Not only that, but he also wants them to tackle such problems realistically. Oh (Haqqu), who is deceiving whom? Do you actually believe that your ignorant clique can tackle international problems realistically after having failed to solve the simplest of problems facing the Iranian peoples for two years?

Do you want to give others the illusion that you are realistic by showing that you are clever enough to discover the unrealistic dealings of the rest of the clique?

It seems that you can say what you like in the country of the charlatan Khomeyni.

BAGHDAD RADIO COMMENTARY ON HOSTAGE RELEASE

JN211434 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] The game of the American hostages between the United States and Khomeyni's regime, which lasted 444 days, ended today by reaching an agreement to release them. In return, the Persian regime will get a part of the frozen Iranian assets in America.

A general review of the farce of the detention of the American hostages in Tehran and of the negotiations held in this regard shows that the method used in dealing with the hostage issue refutes the Khomeyni regime's allegation that the detention of the hostages is a militant political process aimed at striking at American imperialism. It also shows that the detention of the hostages was an internal game resulting from the struggles taking place between the regime's contradictory leaderships. It also proves that it was a game aimed at making the Iranian peoples, who struggled hard against the shah, America's agent, imagine that the new regime is doing something important against American imperialism. Moreover, it was a political game to delude the public opinion in the region, particularly in the Arab homeland. It was also aimed at giving the racist Khomeyni regime an anti-American quality as this would facilitate the regime's schemes against Arab nationalism and particularly against Iraq. This conduct would provide a cover, through false, to the regimes and parties that claim to be progressive in their support for the Persian regime against pan-Arab and revolutionary Iraq.

The end of the farce of the detention of the American hostages proves the Khomeyni regime's total failure and subjugation to the American stand, particularly after the Iraqi forces' victories over the Persian forces.

The outcome of the game of the hostages refutes the anti-imperialist political line claimed by the ruling clique in Iran. By ending in this way, this issue exposes the reality of the suspicious role played by the Khomeyni regime on the one hand, and his dark enmity to Iraq and the Arab nation on the other. The end also stresses the fact that the Khomeyni regime, which launched the war against Iraq, has agreed to bargain with American imperialism. This regime pretended to be opposing this imperialism, whereas it has so far rejected Iraq's peaceful calls and also declined to define its stand on relations with Iraq and the Arab nation.

The question posing itself now after the exposure of the role played by the Persian Khomeyni regime is: How do the regimes of Hafiz al-Asad and Al-Qadhdhafi explain their support for the Persian clique in its war against Iraq and the Arab nation?

SADDAM HUSAYN ADDRESSES UNIT LEAVING FOR FRONT

JN221851 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1600 GMT 22 Jan 81

["Text" of address by Iraqi President Saddam Husayn to unidentified army unit leaving to join frontline division, on 21 January--read by announcer]

[Text] How are your friends? How are you and your fighting there? You have been away from your division for some time. Now you are going. We consider your division a hero. The entire Iraqi Army is a hero, but there are degrees of heroism. Your division is a first-class hero. They all fought like heroes in that sector. We receive detailed news about them. We also received news about you when you were fighting in other positions. Greet every member of your division. We were with them a few days ago. We did not see you; you were at a different location. The Iraqi Army and your heroism are known by all the people.

Brothers, the important thing is to keep up this spirit of heroism. God willing, you will preserve the spirit of victory. The important thing is that this spirit continues as it was on the first day. We saw some of your brothers. We saw that their determination now is greater than on the first day of the war. This is the spirit of Iraqis. We understand it. We have known for a long time that the Iraqis fight with this spirit. When you join your division, convey our greetings to all its members. Tell them we are with them. We see the details of your work. We even see the tankdriver when he changes his position. We receive news about you. We hear of the one who fights more than his colleagues. We receive details about the struggle of the martyrs. We know all their news.

We take great pride in your victories and your courage. All Iraqis are proud; even the children listen to news of you and are with you in the trenches. The Iraqi children have become a part of the Iraqi Army in the frontlines. Thanks to God. We take pride in this situation. This situation is not to be found in just any people, but in people rising up, people who want to build new glory for their nation. Your people are of this kind, as are you.

With God's help, this year, 1981-1982, all volunteers in the Iraqi Army will each have a piece of land. Orders have been issued to all governors to set aside special pieces of land for military men and to give them priority. I am following up this issue myself. The secretary of the president's office is following up the details in Baghdad Governorate and in all the other governorates. God willing, I will not say that in 1981 every volunteer in the army will have a piece of land. I am afraid to say this and then have it not take place. But what is certain, with God's help, is that within 1981 or 1982 no volunteer will remain without a piece of land. All military men will be able to build decent houses for themselves and for their children to settle in. Your revolution is but at the beginning of its giving, giving which will continue. You also give every year with your strong arms and with your honest consciences, just like your leadership and your great party.

When the president was asked by one of the fighters to build a tank factory, the president said: God willing, we will be dependent on no one. Your country has achieved a prominent status. When we obtain a tank, we obtain it with your money; nobody gives it free. Those who came before us, left us with nothing. Now we are building anew with our hands. God willing, you will make the tank, the plane and the rocket with God's strength.

The president contrasted the wars waged by some Arab leaders against the Zionist enemy and the pan-Arab battle waged capably by Iraq against the Persian enemy.

He said: We expect nothing of them. One of them called for a cease-fire on the third day; another, after 8 days. Their arms and ammunition were used up quickly. The USSR established an air bridge for them. Nobody made an air bridge for us. Some people keep silent then say that these Arabs are the same. Those Arabs fought for only days or weeks before their arms and ammunition were drained. They shouted "Save us or we will be finished," but we see that these Arabs have been fighting for 5 months. They have told no one, "we have no ammunition or arms." Thanks to God, we have no worries about weapons or ammunition. Destroy the enemy. God willing, we will provide you with arms and ammunition until the enemy wakes up and surrenders to your rights, then each can keep to his home.

Dear brothers, I would like to continue talking to you, but I am obliged to say, God be with you. Give our greetings to all your brothers.

RAMADAN OUTLINES STAND ON CEASE-FIRE TO JAPANESE

OW230519 Tokyo KYODO in English 0510 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] Tokyo Jan 23, KYODO--Iraqi First Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yasin Ramadan said Friday Iraq is ready to agree to a ceasefire and sit at a peace conference table with Iran.

In a meeting with Yasuhiro Nakasone, director general of the Administrative Management Agency, he said Iraq is prepared to accept mediation by an international organization and asked for Japanese cooperation in initiating such a move.

Ramadan, who arrived Thursday for a three-day visit, reiterated his government's position that the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) should be internationally recognized as the sole legitimate entity representing the Palestinians.

He warned superpowers not to intervene in the affair of the Gulf region.

Ramadhan stressed the need to promote economic cooperation between Iraq and Japan, saying that Iraq highly rated Japanese technology.

He complained to Nakasone that Japan has been reluctant to sell to Iraq even intermediate electronic equipment, to say nothing of weapons.

Japan has maintained neutrality in the four-month-old Iran-Iraq war.

Ramadan was scheduled to have separate talks later Friday with Foreign Minister Masayoshi Ito and International Trade and Industry Minister Rokusuke Tanaka.

PRINCE HASSAN INTERVIEWED ON MIDEAST SITUATION

LD191633 London SUNDAY TELEGRAPH in English 18 Jan 81 p 16

[Gordon Brook-Shepherd interview with Jordan's Crown Prince Hasan in Amman; date not given]

[Excerpts] Three events seem capable between them of shaking loose the stubborn Arab-Israeli deadlock in 1981. They are President Reagan's assumption of power this week; the almost certain departure from power of Israel's hardline prime minister, Mr Begin, sometime between the spring and autumn; and the gathering momentum, especially during the second half of the year, when Britain takes over the presidency of the EEC, of the so-called "European initiative" on the Middle East.

The 32-year-old Crown Prince Hasan, younger brother of King Husyan and the monarch's closest adviser as well as his peer, discussed all these new perspectives with me at a somewhat unorthodox interview in Amman last week.

"We realise," he said, "that no United States Government can renege on 'Camp David' and neither can Egypt, who, together with Israel, signed that agreement; but what we do hope is that Mr Reagan will take a much broader view than this trilateral approach and this is where the European initiative comes in. If the current Dutch president of the EEC Council of Ministers can only do some Middle East groundwork during his six-month term which has just begun, then the way would be clear for your Lord Carrington to tackle the problem when he takes over as president in July."

This remark echoed a wide-spread feeling I experienced not only in Jordan but also in the Gulf last week. This is the conviction that after the personal triumph of the Rhodesia settlement last year, there is almost no diplomatic rabbit which Lord Carrington cannot pull out of any diplomatic hat. The conviction is gratifying but also somewhat alarming, Rhodesia-Zimbabwe was an entirely British hat in law and so were the rabbits inside it, however tricky they may have been to grab by the ears. But Britain has no such jurisdiction over the Arab-Israel conflict, which involves--directly or indirectly--dozens of nations including the two superpowers.

The crown prince was interesting on this last aspect, for he sees the involvement of the Soviet Union as being ultimately essential for any Middle East settlement. "The two superpowers still have to lay down the ground rules for solving the Arab-Israeli conflict and they must recognise that, despite Afghanistan and the Gulf fighting, this is still the most explosive conflict.

"But laying down the ground rules," he added, with emphasis, "does not mean that we want, or could accept, another Yalta agreement imposed on the region." His fear was that, already, too many outside forces were at work trying to "Balkanise" the Arab world and that the wily Israelis, whom he accused of leading that campaign, might be the only people actually to gain from an American-Soviet carve-up of the area."

It was very natural, I said, for Jordan to welcome the Venice declaration of the nine as regards associating the PLO with peace talks, but what about the other prong of that Venetian fork—the need for the PLO fully to recognise the right of Israeli to exist as a sovereign state?

"Yes," he admitted, "we are having trouble in promoting moderation within the ranks of the PLO. They must be brought to accepting the credibility of the Venice declaration as a whole; they must evolve within the general evolution of things."

ARAB LEAGUE REPORTEDLY EXTENDS ADF MANDATE

NC221356 Paris AFP in English 1341 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] Tunis, 22 Jan (AFP)--The Arab League today decided to extend by six months the mandate of the Arab Deterrent Force in Lebanon at the request of the Lebanese Government, informed sources here said.

The force's mandate was to have ended next Monday and has customarily been renewed every six months.

The decision was made at a special league council meeting here called to examine the issue.

CABINET DEFINES TASKS OF STATE MINISTERS

NC221309 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1215 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Excerpt] Prime Minister Shafiq al-Wazzan said after today's Cabinet meeting that the tasks of the ministers of state have been defined as follows:

Dr Qaysar Nasr: minister of state for environmental and social security affairs.

Joseph Abu Khatir: minister of state for municipal development affairs.

Mahmud 'Ammar: minister of state for the affairs of the south and the evacuees.

Sami Yunis: minister of state for administrative qualification affairs.

WALDHEIM AIDE ARRIVES FOR 'EXPLORATORY' VISIT

NC211758 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] James Jonah, assistant to UN Secretary General Dr Waldheim, arrived in Beirut this evening on a visit which has been described as exploratory and which will last a few days. Jonah will acquaint himself with the UN activities in Lebanon and will inspect the UN offices in Beirut.

IRANIAN TRANSPORT MINISTER ARRIVES 22 JAN

NC230745 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] Iranian Minister of Roads and Transport Musa Kalantari arrived in Beirut from Damascus aboard a special plane at midnight yesterday. He leads an official delegation and will hold discussions with Minister of Public Works and Transport Ilyas al-Harawi on restoring air flights between Beirut and Tehran by the Middle East Airways company and the Iranian Airways company.

BULGARIA'S BOZHINOV MAKES STATEMENT, DEPARTS

JN221334 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] Damascus--Todor Bozhinov, first deputy chairman of the Bulgarian Council of Ministers, and his delegation left Damascus this morning after a 4-day visit to Syria. During the visit, Bozhinov delivered a message to President Hafiz al-Asad from the Bulgarian leader. He also held talks with Syrian officials on the development and strengthening of cooperation between the two fraternal countries.

The Bulgarian delegation was seen off by 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs; the minister of state for planning affairs; the minister of electricity; and the Bulgarian and socialist states' ambassadors in Damascus.

Bozhinov made a statement in which he expressed his happiness at visiting Syria. He said: I am very happy at having met President Hafiz al-Asad, who reiterated the wish to strengthen cooperation and friendship with Bulgaria in our joint struggle against imperialism and Zionism. He mentioned that President Hafiz al-Asad will visit Bulgaria at a later time this year. He said that this visit will open new horizons for expanding and strengthening the joint struggle of our people.

On his talks with 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, Bozhinov said: We have arrived at positive results, which were included in the documents signed between us at the end of the visit, particularly the document signed on long-term cooperation. He explained that on the bases of these positive results, we will reach new ways to develop and strengthen cooperation between the two friendly countries. He pointed out that the agreements signed between Syria and Bulgaria come in implementation of what the two leaders agreed on.

At the end of his statement, Bozhinov wished Syria more achievements in all fields. He stressed Bulgaria's support for the Arab struggle against imperialism and Zionism.

Meanwhile, an agreement was signed today on expanding commercial and economic relations between Syria and Bulgaria for the 1981-1985 period. The agreement was signed by 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, Syrian deputy prime minister for economic affairs, and Todor Bozhinov, Bulgarian first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers. A protocol for the joint committee for economic, scientific and technical cooperation between the Syrian and Bulgarian Governments was signed.

AL-ASAD ISSUES LAW ESTABLISHING 1981 BUDGET

JN221300 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] Damascus--President Hafiz al-Asad issued Law No 5, dated 21 January 1981, on the 1981 general budget. The law fixed the total general budget's available funds at 30.480 billion Syrian pounds. The minister of finance will issue the necessary instruction on implementing the provisions of this law, which is effective from 1 January 1981.

ATH-THAWRAH COMMENTS ON RICHARD ALLEN STATEMENTS

JN221004 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 22 Jan 81

[From the press review]

[Text] In a commentary entitled "Antagonism Toward the Arab Right Is the Characteristic of U.S. Policy," the newspaper ATH-THAWRAH says: If aggression and expansion are the basis of Israeli policy and the strategy for which the potentials of world Zionism are mobilized to serve it and help it grow, it seems clear that support for the Zionist expansionist, aggressive policy has become the distinctive characteristic of successive U.S. administrations.

Furthermore, these administrations have competed in supporting Israel and its aggression and expansion against the Arab nation. This has resulted in an antagonistic U.S. stand toward the Arabs and their interests. This antagonistic stand has been characteristically escalating and continuing as the U.S. administrations have succeeded each other and has reached the point where the United States has become a center of support of any aggression or conspiracy against the Arab nation or any threat of hegemony over the Arab region and its resources.

ATH-THAWRAH adds: This fact is confirmed today through the statements of Richard Allen, President Reagan's personal adviser, which puts the Arab nation face to face with an officially announced antagonistic U.S. stand. The objectives of this stand, as announced by President Reagan's adviser, have been determined in advance. These objectives are: The commitments of the United States are sacred; the United States considers Israel as its most important strategic fortification; guaranteeing access of the Western world to the oil wells is a definite principle of Israel and the United States; the road to the oil wells is an issue of life and death to the Western countries; the United States adheres to the Camp David accords and to the participation of Jordan in the so-called peace negotiations; the U.S. administration is not prepared to recognize the PLO as a real representative of the Palestinian people.

ATH-THAWRAH asks if the United States is wagering on the quarters of defeat, conspiracy and collaboration--represented by the agent regimes which have turned into mere instruments of the U.S. maestro like those of King Husayn, As-Sadat and Saddam Husayn--for the success of its policy. The forces of Arab steadfastness and the Arab masses throughout the big homeland cannot submit to threats and aggression. On the strength of their commitment to principles and steadfastness in their struggling positions, these forces and masses are capable, by virtue of their steadfastness and the support of the Free World for their struggle, of turning the struggle formula to their advantage. They are capable of turning the defeat of the forces of aggression before the will of the Arab masses into a new lesson, a moral to all evil, aggressive forces, and into the title of this crucial phase through which the Arab cause and the struggle of the masses are passing.

JORDANIAN STAND ON FEDAYEEN ACTIONS CRITICIZED

JN230818 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 23 Jan 81

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "The Jordanian Regime's Role: From Guarding the Enemy to Liquidating the Issue," the newspaper ATH-THAWRAH writes the following comment: Syria's request to open all Arab fronts to Palestinian fedayeen actions embodies Syria's continued and principled stand to which it has been committed in its struggle and practices. Everybody is aware that the Palestinian revolution was established and developed in Syria and that Syria is the real support for the Palestinian revolution on the military and political levels. Every Arab citizen is now aware of the fact that Syria is the base and lung of the Palestinian resistance and the Arab force fighting in defense of this revolution and its sons and for the sake of regaining its homeland.

The Jordanian regime's rejection of this request confirms the fact which is well-known by the Arab masses and which is being established through this regime's practices and its overt and covert collusion with the Zionist enemy.

If the Black September 1970 events uncovered the regime's grudges against the fedayeen actions, the successive developments confirmed this regime's involvement in the imperialist-Zionist plot not only to strike at the fedayeen actions, but also to liquidate the Palestinian issue in favor of Israel and its expansionist and aggressive schemes.

It is no coincidence for a new crime committed by the Jordanian regime--handing a Palestinian struggler over to the Zionist authorities at the time when the Jordanian regime is rejecting a request to open Arab fronts to fedayeen actions--to be uncovered. Thus, the Jordanian regime is confirming its real character, which is commensurate with its designed role in the plot. The Jordanian regime's forces are guarding the Zionist presence in the occupied West Bank and are providing this presence with the appropriate atmosphere to escalate the acts of terrorism and oppression against our Palestinian people. His majesty's intelligence apparatus is also promoting its cooperation with Israeli intelligence and is working on the latter's behalf in searching for Palestinian strugglers and fedayeen in Jordan and handing them over to the Mossad for liquidation.

His majesty's organs are also working to confirm their behavior in the service of Washington and Tel Aviv, doing so since they have enjoyed the favor of the U.S. administration and the Zionist authorities--represented by the Likud and the Labor Party--in order to play a basic role in the game of liquidation; the game they termed the Jordanian option.

In conclusion, it escaped the mind of King Husayn's regime that its involvement in the plot and its imagining that the imperialist and Zionist circles are capable of defending its regime and of guaranteeing the implementation of its conspiratorial role until the end are merely illusions which will be dissipated by the will of the Arab masses in Jordan and their militant cohesion with the steadfast Arab masses, led by the Syrian and Palestinian masses, which are concerned with confrontation and the liberation burdens and tasks. Only then the Mossad and his majesty's intelligence will not be able to close the borders before the fedayeen or to arrest them. Our steadfast people in Jordan will be the strong support for the fedayeen struggle and the basic force for the battle of liberation.

MUSLIM BROTHERHOOD LEADER ON ORGANIZATION'S FUTURE

LD201407 London THE DAILY TELEGRAPH in English 20 Jan 81 p 5

[David Adamson Report: "Al-Asad's Mass Killings Curb Brotherhood"]

[Text] Fierce reprisals involving mass execution have forced the Moslem Brotherhood to scale down its operations against President Al-Asad's Ba'thist regime in Syria.

Until recently the brotherhood was able to mount attacks involving up to 100 men but government counter-attacks took a heavy toll of the organisation's members as well as ordinary civilians who were rounded up and shot as a lesson to the community.

Mr Sa'd ad-Din, the brotherhood's Syrian leader, who is visiting Britain, agreed in an interview that they had suffered heavy losses, but said that these had been made up by recruitment.

He estimated that thousands of people had died as a result of government reprisals.

The brotherhood would now concentrate on strengthening its organisation while continuing to conduct smaller operations against Mr Al-Asad's regime. "We hope it won't be a long struggle but we are ready for one," he said.

The Moslem Brotherhood is the major element in an anti-government front known as the Islamic Revolution in Syria. Mr Sa'd ad-Din and two other opposition leaders who signed the Islamic revolution's 75-page manifesto two months ago are living in exile, moving secretly from one country to another to avoid Syrian execution squads.

ALGERIA

IRANIAN DELEGATION VISITS, SIGNS AGREEMENT

20 Jan Arrival

LD202236 Algiers Domestic Service in French 2000 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] An important delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran led by the Minister of Roads and Transport Musa Kalantari arrived today in the afternoon in Algiers. The Iranian delegation was met at Houari Boumediene Airport by the Minister of Transportation Saleh Goudjil.

Agreement, Departure

LD220252 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] The Iranian delegation led by Minister of Roads and Transport Musa Kalantari left Algiers this morning for home at the end of a 2-day visit during which he signed an agreement for the promotion of exchanges between the two countries. The delegation was seen off at Houari Boumediene Airport by Algerian Minister of Transportation Saleh Goudjil.

LIBYA

AL-QADHDHAFI VIEWS CURRENT ISSUES, PAKISTANI BOMB

LD221440 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Excerpts] The leader of the revolution said that the world should be changed into a new and better world where freedom and happiness would prevail, where the workers would have the upper hand and be partners and not hired hands, where the system of representation and governments would disappear and the nation and people would be governed through people's conferences, and where the motto would be: No democracy without people's conferences. He made these remarks to the Indian current affairs weekly (?CURRENT) in an interview which was published in the last issue.

Analyzing his vision of a new world which will be governed neither by capitalism or Marxism, the leader of the revolution added that wealth, authority and weapons should be in the hands of the people in such a world so that there would be guarantees for freedom.

Referring to the development of events on the African Continent represented by the French imperialist interference in Africa and its occupation of Central Africa after security and peace had been established in Chad, the brother leader stressed to the magazine that the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah will consolidate its forces in Chad as long as France continues to reinforce its forces nearby. The brother leader explained that the unity between Libya and Chad is the right of both fraternal peoples to consolidate their relations.

Regarding the Iraqi-Iranian war, the brother leader pointed out that when Iran was under the shah's rule, it was a zone of American influence. It was against the Arab nation and assisted Israel and South Africa. But now that the situation has changed completely. Following the triumph of the Iranian revolution Iran has become a friend of the Palestinian people and is against America. He said that when one fights Iran, he is doing so on behalf of America and Israel. This is why we are helping the Iranian revolution. Iran deserved war when it was under the shah's rule.

Regarding the Egyptian ruler's commitment to the Stable David [Camp David] agreements and the United States, the leader of the revolution emphasized that As-Sadat is now finished and that one must look to the future. He expressed the hope that the new American administration would understand the Arab issue and realize that its interests are not in the hands of As-Sadat.

The leader of the revolution refuted the Western imperialist rumors and allegations about Libyan-Pakistani cooperation for the manufacturer of a nuclear weapon. He said there is no cooperation between us and Pakistan in this connection and that we did not give Pakistan a single dirham for the manufacture of a bomb nor shall we do so in the future.

The brother leader stressed the right of the small states to use nuclear energy for peaceful pruposes.

In conclusion, the brother leader hailed the relations between the Jamahiriyah and India and the efforts being made by Indira Gandhi for the consolidation of relations of friendship and cooperation between the two peoples--the Libyan Arab and the Indian people.

SPOKESMAN DEFENDS LIBYAN MOTIVES IN CHAD

LD230857 Paris LE MONDE in French 22 Jan 81 p 8

[Paul Balta interview with Libyan representative Ahmad al-Qadhdhafi in Paris on 20 January: "It Is Ridiculous To Suggest We Intend To Annex"]

[Text] Following the meeting of the General People's Congress (Libya's supreme legislative body) Colonel al-Qadhdhafi outlined his reply to his critics by explaining that the latter had wrongly translated and interpreted the Arabic word for "merger" with Chad, because it was a union between two fraternal and neighboring peoples and not organic unity between two states, still less annexation of the former French colony.

At the same time the Libyan revolution "guide" has sent his nephew Ahmad al-Qadhdhafi--one of his best-loved relatives--to Paris on an unofficial basis to explain things at the highest level if possible.

"Why," he said to us on Tuesday 20 January, "are you making so much fuss about us? Our country is huge, rich and full of resources. Why would it wish to annex Chad? That is ridiculous. That country had been torn by war for years and we helped it to end the war. For the first time for ages the Chadians are no longer fighting each other. We should be thanked for the aid which we gave them and which we are prepared to give them for rebuilding their country."

[Question] Colonel al-Qadhdhafi said that Chad constituted part of Libya's vital "lebensraum." That is bound to stir up bad memories in Europe.

[Answer] Those remarks were misinterpreted. Chad is our neighbor and it is largely populated by Muslims. We cannot be indifferent to its problems. We are Muslims and advocate the liberation of, and rapprochement between, Muslims. What is reprehensible about that? We said that we understand that France has interests in Africa. However, France for its part should understand that we are an African country and that we cannot be indiffenent to Africa's fate. We want to explain our position to France, put our cards on the table, explain our intentions and discuss our problems with France. However, France seems to have been avoiding any meeting for weeks. We do not understand that reaction when we have a great deal of respect for its Arab and Mediterranean policy and its understanding of the Palestinian people.

[Question] That may be so but the Libyans sacked the French Embassy in Tripoli in February 1980.

[Answer] We have said that we would pay for the repairs. In addition we have made many good-will gestures. The oil agreements reached with Mr Chalandon constitute a major advantage for France; that advantage was, moreover, felt acutely by the United States. We have also decided to import at least 30,000 Peugeot automobiles; that is considerable. [answer ends]

Ahmad al-Qadhdhafi then stressed that most of the African countries which accuse Libya of wishing to form a Saharan empire also accuse it of playing into the Soviet Union's hands. "However," he said, "we have good relations with the USSR because it supports the Arab cause. The moderate countries which criticize us refuse to see that we have good relations with Europe too and that we would also have had good relations with the United States it if did not support Israel against the Arabs."

CHAD'S GOUKOUNI CONDEMNS FRENCH STAND ON CHAD

LD230030 Tripoli Voice of Arab Homeland in Arabic 2315 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] The president of Chad, Goukouni Oueddei, condemned the French threats to Chad and the consolidation of the French military presence in Central Africa, and said that he considered those threats as directed against the people of Chad and also against progressive peoples in the region. This came in a press conference president of Chad held in Tripoli in the evening in the presence of a number of Arab and international news agency correspondents.

He said that the reaction of the people of Chad and also of the progressive states to those threats is clear, and it is a categorical rejection of those threats. He accused the French Government of adopting attitudes hostile to the transitional government in Chad and accused it of restoring its military presence in Africa. He pointed out to the reporters that Chad was facing danger when it fought the remnants of the rebels backed by France, the United States, Egypt and Sudan. He said that the Libyan forces intervened at the request of Chad in order to settle the situation and to enable the transitional government and the revolution to restore security, tranquillity and peace to the country.

The president of Chad condemned the biased French propaganda spread through its agents against Chad, in a desperate attempt to shake its attitude. (?He also condemned) the Egyptian-Sudanese attempts aimed at bringing back the rebel Hissein Habre, the agent who was defeated by the forces of the Chadian revolution, confirming that neither the ruler of Egypt nor his vassal Numayri can do anything.

The Chadian president added that the Chadian people will be ready to stand in the face of all attempts aimed at detracting from their freedom. He pointed out that the two agent regimes in Egypt and Sudan face numerous internal difficulties in addition to their stands against the Palestine people and hence they are trying to cover up all this by their maneuvers against the Chadian people. But we will resist most fiercely any attempt by these two regimes to harm our land or dignity.

He strongly denounced the Western and reactionary propaganda media which speak of imaginery disturbances inside Chad. He categorically affirmed that Chad has not witnessed any disturbances since 15 December, the day on which the revolution triumphed and inflicted heavy defeat on the aggressors and rebels.

Also today Robert Mugabe, prime minister of the nationalist government in Zimbabwe, condemned foreign interventions in African affairs, confirming that any African problem should be solved by the Africans themselves. He said this morning during his meeting with brother 'Abd al-'Ati al-'Ubaydi, secretary of the Popular Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison, that his country regards with appreciation the role which the Jamahiriyah continues to play for the achievement of security and peace in Chad, in cooperation with its legitimate government. The prime minister of Zimbabwe expressed appreciation of the valuable assistance rendered by the Libyan people to the people of Zimbabwe during its struggle.

JANA REPORTS FRENCH AIRLIFT FORCES FROM DJIBOUTI

LD230944 Tripoli JANA in English 0902 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] Djibouti, 23 Jan (JANA)--JANA has learned that French forces in Djibouti were currently being airlifted to other unknown destinations. Some sources said that these forces might be on their way to other African countries, such as Niger and Mali.

IRAN, LIBYA SIGN AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT

JN221902 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1730 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] An agreement has been signed between the minister of roads and transport of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Libyan minister of transport. Before signing the agreement, the brother Libyan minister of transport delivered a speech on strengthening cooperation between the two countries. He also expressed his country's support for the Islamic Republic of Iran in all fields.

Brother Musa Kalantari, Iranian minister of roads and transport, then expressed thanks to the Libyan brothers and hope that the conclusion of this agreement will be a good beginning for future bilateral relations.

The agreement provides mutual benefits from the Tehran-Damascus-Tripoli-Algiers air route for passenger transport. It also covers the provision of technical services and transportation of Libyan pilgrims on Iran Airlines next year.

MOSCOW EMBASSY TRANSFORMED INTO PEOPLE'S BUREAU

LD231300 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] Moscow--The Libyan masses present in Moscow this morning marched on the Libyan Embassy in Moscow, turned it into a people's bureau and formed a people's committee to run it. The people's committee formed to run the bureau in its statement affirmed that the bureau will consolidate relations between the Libyan Arab and the Soviet peoples disregarding traditional diplomacy and in the belief that true and firm relations are relations among peoples.

MAURITANIA

BNEIJARA SENDS INAUGURAL CONGRATULATIONS TO REAGAN

LD222126 Nouakchott Domestic Service in Arabic 2030 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] Prime Minister Ahmed Ould Bneijara has sent the following cable of congratulations to His Excellency Ronals Reagan, the U.S. President:

On the occasion of your official appointment as President of the United States, we convey to you, in the name of the Mauritanian Government and myself, our warmest congratulations and best wishes for happiness and success for you and the American people.

I am confident that your election to lead your great country will contribute to the consolidation of world peace and the respect for human rights which the American people have always championed.

I am confident that cooperation between both our countries will grow for the certain good of both our peoples.

Please accept my utmost respects.

SUDAN

SUNA REPORTS LIBYANS MINING CHADIAN TERRITORY

JN221230 Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1055 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] Khartoum, 22 Jan (SUNA)--A report received by SUNA from Chad says that on 13 January, Libyan forces kidnapped two children who were tending sheep in the village of (Al-Fida), which lies west of Am Zoer. This happened when the children saw the Libyan forces planting mines in the streets at the entrances to and exits from the city to other cities. The report adds that a third child, who was not seen by the Libyan forces, stayed in hiding and told the citizens what had befallen his comrades.

The report notes that since their entry into Chad, the Libyan forces have been planting mines around the villages to prevent the entry of people from Khartoum in an attempt to control the movement of the national forces that are hostile to Libyan forces. The report adds that the Libyan forces planted an anti-armor mine in the region of (Muhaddad) and surrounded this with about 36 anti-personnel mines.

A responsible source in the forces of the north told SUNA that the cooperation of the people, despite the fact that a large number of them are subjected to kidnapping, helps the national forces detonate the mines. The source adds that the fate of the people kidnapped by the Libyan forces is still unknown.

NUMAYRI DIRECTS REGIONAL GOVERNOR TO RESIGN

JN201019 Khartoum SUNA in English 0935 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] Khartoum, 20 Jan (SUNA)--Ja'far Muhammad Numayri, Sudanese president, yesterday directed the governor of Darfur region, At-Tayib al-Mardi, to resign from his post. The step followed a memorandum forwarded to the president by Darfur region house members requesting At-Tayib al-Mardi to step down and to be replaced by a governor from one of the natives of the region.

The president, in his address to Darfur Region house members delegation, said that he highly appreciated the efforts and achievements of Al-Mardi to the Sudan in general and to Darfur region in particular.

The Darfur region house members expressed regret in their memorandum to the president over the events which took place in the region in protest to Al-Mardi's appointment as governor of the region. The memorandum said that the resignation of At-Tayib al-Mardi was unavoidable regarding the tensed situation in the region to avoid further repercussions.

[Words indistinct] of the Sudan and the peace of the Sudan are above any consideration, I agree to the request included in your note. In fact I am concerned of my country's unity and security not to be endangered by any means although the revolution and the state were capable, through their institutions, of putting things into order.

President Numayri explained in his address that the objective of the regional government was to consolidate the unity of the Sudan and that the law organizes it gave the option to the masses to choose their governor after a transitional period.

The memorandum confirmed the region's unswerving commitment to the May revolution and expressed absolute confidence in its leader President Numayri. It further added that after the appointment of At-Tayib al-Mardi as a governor for the region demonstrations broke out in Al Fashir against the appointment. The memorandum called on Al-Tayib al-Mardi to appreciate the situation and submit his resignation.

The president address to the delegation stated, without regard to the circumstances and consequences connected with the appointment of At-Tayib al-Mardi still there are plots threatening the Sudan from inside and outside.

President Numayri in his reply to the memorandum said that he [words indistinct] governor for the region in the transitional period.

At-Tayib al-Mardi and four others were appointed last month as governors to the five regions of Sudan.

The Congress of the Sudanese Socialist Union, the only political organization in the country, early last year resolved that Sudan be divided into five regions as an implementation of the regional government policy adopted by the government.

The five regions are East, North, Central, Kurdufan and Darfur in addition [words indistinct] autonomy since the peace agreement between north and southern Sudan in 1972 which ended a 17-year civil war in the country. Khartoum, the capital of Sudan remains the national capital of the whole country.

TUNISIA

LIBYA'S AT-TURAYKI ARRIVES, MEETS WITH MZALI

22 Jan Statement

LD222234 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2100 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, foreign secretary of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, arrived in Tunis today at the head of a delegation. On his arrival at Tunis-Carthage International Airport, Dr at-Turayki made the following statement to TAP:

I am happy to visit fraternal Tunisia, at the invitation of my colleague and friend the foreign minister of the Tunisian Government. This visit comes within the neighborly fraternal relations between Tunisia and Libya. It will give me the opportunity of delivering a verbal message from the brother leader of the 1 September Revolution to President Habib Bourguiba, and of talking to the brothers in Tunisia in the service of the interests of the two fraternal peoples.

Frankly, I believe that this is a new page in Libyan-Tunisian relations, which could be the beginning of a fruitful action and cooperation between the two fraternal neighboring countries and the two peoples.

The period that has now elapsed, from which we all suffered, was just a passing cloud, and it is quite natural that relations between Tunisia and Libya should be fraternal, as we are the two closest Arab peoples. We are not linked only by ties of fraternity and neighborliness, but also by intermarriages and relations of kinship between the Tunisian and Libyan peoples. I believe that the thousands of Libyan families in Tunisia and Tunisian families in Libya make our relations grow stronger and stronger. We hope that this visit will augur well, and no doubt it will be followed by visits between brothers in Tunisia and Libya.

Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki was welcomed by Messrs Mezri Chekir, the minister attached to the prime minister for civil service and administrative reform; Mahmoud Mestiri, secretary general of the Foreign Ministry; Mr [name indistinct], Libyan charge d'affaires in Tunisia, and As'ad al-As'ad, deputy secretary general of the Arab League.

Mzali Reception

LD230026 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] Prime Minister Mohamed Mzali yesterday [22 January] afternoon received in his office at the government house in the Kasbah Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki, the foreign secretary of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah. The meeting was attended by Messrs Mezri Chekir, minister attached to the prime minister for civil service and administrative reform; Mahmoud Mestiri, secretary general of the Foreign Ministry; Muhammad Fayala, director of international cooperation at the Foreign Secretariat in the Jamahiriyah, who is accompanying Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki during his visit to Tunisia; and Bashir (Julaydi), charge d'affaires of the Embassy of the Jamahiriyah in Tunisia.

After the meeting Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki made a statement in which he said: The meeting with the prime minister was fraternal, frank, clear and fruitful, for the benefit of the Tunisian and Libyan peoples.

During the meeting there was a review of bilateral relations between Libya and Tunisia, relations supposed to be always fraternal, as the relations linking Tunisians and Libyans are historic. I would not be mistaken to say that the two peoples constitute a single people due to the fact that they are both Arab and Muslim peoples, and the two closest peoples are indeed the Tunisian and the Libyan peoples. For this reason, relations between ought to be excellent, and it is not natural that they should be otherwise.

Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki added: We believe that the presence of Mr Mohamed Mzali at the head of the Tunisian Government, and the other colleagues, ministers of this government, has opened up a positive page in relations between the two countries, because relations between His Excellency President Habib Bourguiba and Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi have always been strong, and the affection between them continues and has never been affected.

Dr 'Ali 'Abd as-Salam at-Turayki reaffirmed that these positive talks will undoubtedly contribute to improving the bilateral relations between the two countries. He said that these direct meetings will continue, either in Tunis or in Tripoli.

In conclusion, he expressed his personal satisfaction with the results of these talks.

ROK COMMUNICATIONS MINISTER ARRIVES WITH MESSAGE

LD221529 Tunis L'ACTION in French 15 Jan 81 p 5

[Text] Kim Ki-chol, minister of communications of the Republic of Korea, arrived in Tunis yesterday evening bearing a personal message from Republic of Korea President Chon Tu-hwan to President Habib Bourguiba.

In a statement to TAP Kim Ki-chol said he is happy to be visiting Tunisia and to have the opportunity to meet President Habib Bourguiba to whom he will hand a personal message from Republic of Korea President Chon Tu-hwan today.

The Korean delegation, which comprises seven members, will make a 3-day official visit to our country. This visit, Kim Ki-chol added, enables us to observe Tunisia's achievements and find means of promoting the relations of friendship and cooperation which already exist between our countries.

During its visit to Tunisia the Korean delegation will meet senior Tunisian officials and will visit the Monastir and Sousse Governorates.

Kim Ki-chol was welcomed at Tunis Carthage International Airport by Transport and Communications Minister Sadok Ben Jomaa, Director of Protocol Abdelmajid Karoui and (Kee Il Cho), charge d'affaires at the Republic of Korea's Embassy in Tunis.

BRIEFS

MOROCCAN-FRENCH TELEVISION AGREEMENT--An agreement to set up a second television channel of the Moroccan television service was signed at the Ministry of Information between the Moroccan Government represented by Minister of Information Abdelwahid Belakziz and the French company Sofirad [Radio Broadcasting Fiancing Company] represented by [name indistinct], chairman and managing director of the company. The work will be undertaken in two stages. The first will cover construction of basic engineering and building installations through which the transmitting stations will cover the governorate of Rabat and Casablanca and the regions of (Mouknass), Taza and Marrakech. The second stage will be concerned with covering eastern Morocco and (?northern regions). [Excerpt] [Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 22 Jan 81 LD]

REAGAN EXPECTED TO INVITE BEGIN, AS-SADAT, HUSAYN

TA221156 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 22 Jan 81 p 1

[By Arye Tzimuqi]

[Text] One of President Reagan's confidants, Richard Allen, in conversation with Israeli Ambassador to Washington Efrayim 'Evron, hinted at the possibility that Begin would be invited for a talk with the president.

The prevailing view is that Reagan will invite Begin, As-Sadat and King Husayn for separate talks within the next few months, but he will postpone a summit until after the Israeli elections.

This morning Jerusalem denied the rumors spread in Washington that Reagan had spoken with Begin yesterday by phone.

EGYPTIAN PARLIAMENTARY DELEGATION MEETS OFFICIALS

'Abdallah Remarks

TA202126 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 2100 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] This evening the head of the Egyptian parliamentary delegation currently visiting Israel, Dr Muhammad 'Abdallah, invited a Knesset delegation for a reciprocal visit to Egypt. In a speech at a dinner given on the delegation's behalf, Dr 'Abdallah repeated that Israel should make more efforts for the solution of the Palestinian problem. Knesset Chairman Yitzhaq Berman praised the relations developing between Israel and Egypt, expressing the hope that additional Arab countries will join the peace process.

Tomorrow the Egyptian delegation members will confer with the president of the state, the prime minister, the deputy prime minister, the foreign minister and members of the small Knesset factions.

Begin Remarks

TA221225 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 22 Jan 81 p 8

[Excerpts] Yesterday Prime Minister Menahem Begin told the members of the Egyptian parliamentary delegation that if he received an invitation from President Ronald Reagan--with or without Anwar as-Sadat--he would not hesitate to go, even at the peak of the elections period. He said: "We are not afraid of the Palestinians. We must live in one area. We draw a distinction between the Palestinian cause and the normalization of relations with Egypt."

He said that the Palestinians wanted to destroy Israel, and even said so. "You know them well," he commented. "They are a danger." He recalled that the PLO was receiving military aid and weapons from the Soviet Union.

Yesterday the delegation members were the guests of President Yitzhaq Navon in the presidential residence. The meeting was moving, and one of the delegation members said that she and her colleagues had found friendship and frankness here.

In a conversation they held later with Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir, they said that "the Egyptian man in the street has the feeling that peace is bad for Egypt."

A delegation member said that, as a result of the peace agreement with Israel, Egypt had lost a great deal of income from tourism and investments with the Arab countries. It was true that this loss was eased by U.S. investments and aid, but the compensation was only partial.

CONCERN VOICED OVER MILITARY AID TO SAUDI ARABIA

U.S. Involvement

TA221312 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Excerpts] Israel strategic experts are increasingly worried about massive military construction going on in Saudi Arabia. Shim'on Ayalon reports:

The work being done in Saudi Arabia includes a massive military town being built near Riyadh, the Saudi Capital, two ports on the Red Sea and a number of airfields, one of which particularly worries Israel: that's at Tabuk, near the Saudi border with Jordan. Israel feels that this airfield cannot offer Saudi Arabia any protection against Arab enemies but would be ideal for strikes against Israel.

One of the Israeli strategists watching this growing American involvement--building the new Saudi military infrastructure--is Nimrod Novik, a senior fellow of the Center for Strategic Studies at Tel Aviv University. He points out that the American-Saudi cooperation really began to take wings 5 or 6 years ago when the American fuel bills began to soar and the American administration of then began looking around for something to sell the Saudis. Recycling the petrodollars is the term used. Thus, the massive American arms sales to Saudi Arabia got underway, to be complemented later by building the very airfields that the American planes would use. Shim'on Ayalon, Tel Aviv.

Expression to Genscher

TA161817 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Text] Israel's ambassador to Bonn, Yohanan Meroz, has conferred with West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher and expressed to him Israel's deep concern that Bonn might supply arms to countries that are in a state of war with Israel. The ambassador asked Genscher for clarifications of press reports that the Bonn government was contemplating the sale of large and sophisticated war materiel to Saudi Arabia.

Protest to FRG

TA221240 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir met with West German Ambassador Klaus Schuetz to protest a possible sale of West German tanks to Saudi Arabia. David Essing reports:

Foreign Minister Shamir told Ambassador Schuetz that the clarification Israel has received so far from Bonn has not been satisfactory. It had not laid to rest Israel's fear about hundreds of advanced Leopard tanks being sold to Saudi Arabia. In other words, Israel does not have assurances that Bonn will not approve the deal. Shamir stressed the gravity with which Israel views such a development. It was inconceivable that West German arms would make their appearance in the Middle East arena, jeopardizing the security of the Jewish state.

This morning's meeting in Jerusalem follows a session between Israeli Ambassador Ma'oz with West Germany's foreign minister, Hans-Dietrich Genscher, in Bonn last Friday. The Israeli ambassador had then sought clarification from Genscher. Since then, there have been reports out of West Germany that Bonn has not yet taken a final decision on selling the tanks to Saudi Arabia. However, Israeli sources indicated today they believe Bonn is planning on going through with the arms deal.

The foreign minister told Ambassador Schuetz that Saudi Arabia's policy is the very opposite of moderation. Shamir referred to Saudi Arabia's recent call for a jihad, holy war, against Israel, quoting Crown Prince Fahd, who also supported personal attacks against Israelis. Shamir requested Ambassador Schuetz to convey Israel's grave concern to the West German Government.

PERES REPORTS ON TALK WITH FRENCH PRESIDENT

TA221455 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] Shim'on Peres today met with French President Valerie Giscard d'Estaing and after a 90-minute talk he said that there are differences between Israel and France on the situation in our region.

In a talk with correspondents following the meeting, Peres said that France wants a change in Israel's position regarding the Palestinian question. I am convinced, the Labor Party leader said, that the PLO cannot be a real partner in the talks, because of its decentralized structure and also because of its charter that seeks the destruction of Israel. Peres told the newsmen in Paris that in his opinion the real solution is in the hands of Jordan--within which the Palestinian problem could be solved.

PERES TOUGHENS POSITION ON JORDANIAN OPTION

TA230946 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 23 Jan 81 p 1

[Text] Labor Party Chairman MK Shim'on Peres has toughened his position toward King Husayn for his constant rejection of the Jordanian option proposed by the Alignment. Following a long period of silence by Husayn, MK Shim'on Peres finally told HA'ARETZ in a special interview that the king ought to make up his mind about what he wants. "Does he want us to kiss his hands?"

MK Peres said that despite the prosperity in Jordan it is embroiled in a difficult political situation, caught between Egypt and Syria, with its ally, Iraq, not scoring great successes in its war with Iran. Jordan needs peace with Israel more than Israel needs peace with Jordan "and it will not be doing us any favor."

MK Peres added that the importance of southeastern Israel, the 'Arava, has grown significantly due to its proximity to the supply route from Al-'Aqabah to Amman and Baghdad, an axis that has become a vital transport artery for both Jordan and Iraq.

GOVERNMENT TO EXTEND CHIEF OF STAFF'S TERM

TA221220 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 22 Jan 81 p 1

[Text] The government will soon extend Chief of Staff Lt Gen Refa'el Eytan's term by 1 year. In April Eytan will have completed 3 years as chief of staff, and it is customary for any extension beyond that period to be approved by the Cabinet.

The decision to extend his service as chief of staff for another year was made during 'Ezer Weizman's term as defense minister. Mr Begin also supports this proposal. It is the custom to raise the matter before the entire government several months before the end of the 3d year. In the past there has never been a vote on an extension of a chief of staff's term beyond 3 years. The intention to hold early Knesset elections will affect the decision to extend the chief of staff's term for a 4th year. Government sources said that this was a correct decision, since replacing a chief of staff 6 months before the elections would undoubtedly meet with opposition criticism.

TZIPORI COMMENTS ON RELATIONS WITH U.S., EGYPT

TA162029 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1605 GMT 16 Jan 81

[Interview of Deputy Defense Minister Mordekhay Tzipori by correspondent Yesha'yahu Ban-Porat, Shmu'el Segev and Eytan Haber on "Gentlemen the Press" program--recorded]

[Exceprts] [Segev] In 1975, after signing the interim agreement with Egypt, a program was worked out for strengthening the IDF. The program ended in 1980. During your term as deputy defense minister have you or have the defense ministers under whom you served worked out a long-term program for the continued strengthening of the IDF in the coming years and on what basic assumptions does a program rely?

[Tzipori] First, we assumed power when this long-term program was only beginning and we confronted problems that obliged us to alter it.

We are now working on a new long-term program. In the discussions we have held we rely on the assumption--which is acceptable to the prime minister as well--that the defense budget cannot be increased. Planning should therefore be based on a budget which is equivalent to that of 1980 or even a little less than that.

[Segev] Is it possible to assume that as with previous multiannual program, this program has been or will be reviewed by U.S. experts before it is approved and the budget framework determined?

[Tzipori] Let us say the following: Our relations with and especially our demands [tevi'ot] of the United States are such as to render it necessary to discuss some things with it after we conclude our programs. It finances some of our plans, If God helps the State of Israel and we are able to tell the Americans thank you for your aid, we will not consult with them. However, as long as we want both dollars and equipment from it I assume we will have to consult with it too. Besides, in my opinion, we are, I hope, part of the free Western world in the past, present and future. So, I relate to the Western world as potential partners.

[Haber] Since we are talking about the United States I would like to ask the following question. In a few days President Carter is ending his term in office. His term in power approximately overlaps with the Likud's rule in Israel. How do you sum up in the security sphere what we received from the United States in these years?

[Tzipori] I believe Israel's relations with the United States during this time at least with regard to security were [words indistinct]. It is true that the president who aided Israel the most up till now was President Nixon, and all due respect to him. However, during the present administration's term, the story of the shopping basket ended--no Golda Me'ir-like trips, nor Rabin-like travels for the approval of this or that number of tanks or planes. The market is open to us. The only problem lies in financing and also in this they went a long way to meet us.

[Segev] There was no need for a shopping basket really, because, as you yourself said, this procurement was carried out according to a multiannual program that was worked out by the previous administration and was only implemented by you.

[Tzipori] It was worked out but not approved. I witnessed the approvals. Mr Weizman as defense minister had a very good rapport with the U.S. defense secretary and got all these things. I want to say--the Israeli people should recognize this--that there was a breakthrough in our relations with the United States. We will pay back the debts to the Americans and enjoy their grants. However, for the first time that what we call the buy back has been consolidated. Today, following 'Ezer Weizman's agreement with Secretary Brown, we entered a process whereby any U.S. company with which we sign a contract undertakes to make purchases in Israel.

[Haber] Does this really take place?

[Tzipori] Yes. Parts for planes are being built for the United States in Jerusalem, for example. We would like even to elaborate on this. Today we will not sign a contract unless a contract for procurement is signed with our plants.

[Haber] How much did the U.S. aid to us--in dollars--amount to during the 4-year period?

[Tzipori] I cannot be precise but astronomical sums are involved here.

[Haber] You are also participating in the strategic dialogue with the United States. Will there be a continuation of the dialogue during the Reagan administration?

[Tzipori] First, I am the head of the Israeli team. We were in the United States a few weeks ago with the intention of continuing the dialogue. According to my impression and my knowledge of the reports to be submitted by the outgoing [U.S.] team to the incoming team, the recommendations will be positive. I cannot predict. I hope the dialogue will continue since I think that both sides benefit from it. However, it is difficult to say yes or no. I hope we will be wiser during the next month.

[Segev] We witness various developments in the region and we are naturally sensitive to changes in the status of neighboring countries even if they already have peaceful relations with us, and I am here referring to Egypt. Is Israel troubled by the strengthening of Egypt's strategic status? Is this discussed in our dialogue with the United States?

[Tzipori] There is some trap here from the point of view of Israel. We cannot deny this. This is a fact. First, as a partner to a country with which we have a peace treaty on the one hand and a superpower which wants to take positions on the other hand, we should welcome this. However, we do not welcome this with a tranquil heart or we do not welcome this at all. [sentence as heard] Why? Before more years go by and things are put to a test it is difficult for us to digest this. On the other hand, the additional strengthening of any of the Arab countries certainly is considered by us as another link in the chain of hazards potentially lurking for the State of Israel. We cannot prevent U.S. aid to Egypt. It runs counter to U.S. interests. In the course of time it may be contrary to U.S. interests just as the Soviet Union made a big mistake regarding Egypt. I hope that the United States will not make a mistake but, as far as we are concerned, the situation is not gladdening.

[Segev] I would like to elaborate on this question. There was a U.S. Congress report which talked about changes in the status of the region's countries. Among other things it was recommended not to use the services Israel offers to the U.S. Army or the 6th Fleet and, in contrast, to use existing bases in Arab countries. The reference is to Saudi Arabia, Somalia, Oman and a non-Arab country, Kenya. It was learned yesterday that in a continuation of the joint U.S.-Egyptian training, Egyptian soldiers may be flown to the United States for joint maneuvers with the U.S. Army. We are here witnessing certain processes that directly or indirectly undermine the concept of the balance of powers in the region. How are we handling this?

[Tzipori] To talk of the U.S. concept I want to say that until Reagan's election campaign statements, which still need to pass the test of reality, the State of Israel had been morally and otherwise supported by the United States. But now for the first time a U.S. president-elect has said that Israel is a strategic asset. This statement was made both during and after the election and has also been repeated and reinforced by Secretary of State Haig. We have some dividends in this respect now.

I should correct one point: The State of Israel has not yet offered its facilities to the Americans.

[Segev] The prime minister publicly offered facilities.

[Tzipori] Excuse me, the prime minister said that if the Americans want to discuss this issue with us we will surely favorably discuss it. We have not offered facilities nor have we requested them. As for [U.S.] cooperation with other countries--it may be that the other countries need them more than we do. The State of Israel has a developed technology and a variety and an arsenal of equipment that can immediately serve the Americans. Their decisions, if they want to cooperate with us, will be much simpler. Sometimes I say in jest that they had better train a little with the neighboring countries and they will thus very speedily draw conclusions.

GAZA STRIP MURDERS ATTRIBUTED TO TERRORISTS

TA230833 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Excerpt] The security forces in Gaza have reason to believe that the latest 12 murders in Gaza were the result of hostile terrorist activity. The security elements think that there is a hit list of collaborators with the Israeli authorities in Gaza. Here is a report by Moti 'Eden with a report about this and the normalization relations between the Gaza Strip and Egypt:

Nobody in Gaza is prepared to talk to us openly, as happens whenever there is political violence here, but now we can definitely say that there is a hit list of those who are suspected of collaborating with the Israeli authorities. The reports of 300 names on the list are certainly exaggerated but the shadow of the threat is tangible in the Gaza streets, and people who have had ties with the administration in the past or who supported the autonomy talks are keeping a low profile.

Although the security forces think that those who carried out the attacks were terrorists, they think there is also an element of Muslim extremism here, because several of those murdered were owners of cafes or billiard clubs who sold hashish or beer.

One of those who is considered to be on the list of those to be eliminated is Gaza Mayor Rashad ash-Shawwa, and yesterday he told us he was not afraid. There have been 10 attempts to murder him in the past, but the Lord protected him, he said. Ash-Shawwa attributes the wave of murders to the degeneration in social values in Gaza and said that crime, including armed robbery and house-breaking, was on the upswing. Ash-Shawwa claimed that this originated in the instability created in the Gaza Strip because of the political uncertainty. Ash-Shawwa also told us that after sundown the streets were empty but despite this he did not think that we were returning to the period of the early 1970's and the well-known terror that occurred in Gaza at the time.

Despite the fact that Gaza personalities are keeping a low profile, normalization with Egypt has gone into high gear. People have already made arrangements to sell solar heating units and cloth to Egypt; businessmen have already bought farms in Egypt; and 50,000 Gaza Strip inhabitants have visited Egypt.

OAU SECRETARY GENERAL VIEWS CHAD FORCE, ELECTIONS

AB230947 Libreville Domestic Service in French 1830 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Interview of OAU Secretary General Edem Kodjo by Gabonese press in Libreville on 22 January--recorded]

[Excerpts] [Kodjo] We are in Gabon to attend this very important symposium on science and culture as a basis for development in Africa. It is an important symposium because after the adoption by the OAU heads of state and government of the Lagos plan of action in April last year, we felt it was necessary to begin implementing the plan and the first step we considered essential is to deeply develop the notion of science and culture as a basis for development. We are convinced that without an appropriate scientific policy, our states will find it very difficult to ensure that effective launching of their development plans. Similarly, without the cultural integration of the development plan, it is quite obvious that we are likely to repeat the errors committed here and there through what is called wild indetermination or counterdevelopment. Therefore, science and culture go hand in hand and must be promoted in the same way in order to build coherent foundations for African development. [words indistinct] In my opinion, this symposium is fundamental and as important as the Monrovia symposium which was held under the same conditions 2 years ago. I hope that thanks to the experts who will take part in this symposium, positive results will emerge which we will submit to the various OAU states.

[Question] If you will permit, I would like to take a word of this theme which you said is very important--that is, science and culture as a basis for development in Africa. Mr OAU Secretary General, the word "culture" is a complex word which has more than 50 definitions. Africa is now living in an era characterized by the disappearance of our ancestral values. This being the case, which African culture is to serve as a basis for development? Is is the present culture which is in fact a symbiosis of external elements and the local elements which are disappearing, unfortunately, or should we reconsider African culture before it can serve as a basis for development in Africa?

[Answer] This is indeed a complex question but I will give you a very direct answer. We say that the present African culture is a symbiosis of traditional and external elements and therefore a mixture. This being the case, I think that when we talk of culture as a basis of development, we mean the need to ensure the deep-rootedness of our identity [words indistinct]. So far, development has been what I would call economic adventures which often result in the creation of companies that have nothing to do with the African society or even society in general.

[Question] Mr Secretary General, after discussing culture we will now turn to politics by examining some aspects of the Chadian problem. Do you think the OAU can send its intervention force to Chad without calling on the United Nations?

[Answer] I must say first of all that the OAU does not yet have an intervention force. The OAU intends to mobilize some units of certain member countries to be sent to Chad. To give a full answer to your question, I must admit that the OAU does not have the material, logistic and financial means to send adequate contingents to Chad. This is why I am convinced that this operation cannot be put into effect without UN assistance. This is also why for many months now as the OAU secretary general, I have been respectfully drawing the attention of the organization's most important authorities on the impossibility or difficulties of sending an OAU force without any outside assistance. I think that was why some heads of state recently met in Lome where they insisted on the need for cooperation between the United Nations and the OAU.

[Question] Do you think it will be possible to organize free elections in Chad before the end of 1981?

[Answer] I think it will be possible to organize the elections before the end of 1981. I sincerely believe this. On the other hand and as Vice President Kamougue recently said, it seems that in the present circumstances it would be difficult for the OAU secretary general to organize the elections in April. We will make all necessary effort to ensure that the elections are held at the right time but I think the month of April is relatively too close in view of the complexity of the Chadian problem.

[Question] Mr Secretary General, we also have the problem of Namibia. What concrete action is the OAU going to take considering the fact that Sam Nujoma has just decided to intensify the fighting? What are you going to do?

[Answer] First of all, I think we must understand Sam Nujoma. Please believe me. We who attended this meeting as observers by the side of the frontline states, Nigeria and the OAU General Secretariat made every effort to force SWAPO to accept so far as possible the compromise solutions suggested. Unfortunately, we banged against a veritable wall represented by South Africa which, for all sorts of reasons that I do not want to judge, refused to accept [words indistinct]. In that case, Mr Nujoma is right to say that the fighting must continue. I think that as was the case last year with Zimbabwe, the OAU will try to prepare a plan of assistance to the SWAPO. The OAU will try to consider the kind of diplomatic activity it can undertake at the level of the organization or of the member states in order to pressure South Africa so that it may agree to engage in discussions and negotiations with the SWAPO.

JUSTICE MINISTERS PROPOSE HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION

AB200750 Paris AFP in English 0720 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Text] Banjul, Gambia, Jan 20 (AFP)--A proposed human rights charter that provides for the creation of a commission to investigate human rights complaints was approved during the just-ended meeting here of African justice ministers.

The 11-member investigative commission would study any charge brought before it by any Organization of African Unity (OAU) member-state.

Some of the justice ministers pressed for a provision on the naming of officials serving on the commission, but the final draft said simply that the body would be composed of men of recognized morality, integrity, impartiality and competence. It was not clear if the commissioners would be appointed or what power they would have. The proposed charter requires ratification by a simple majority of OAU member-states.

ETHIOPIA

10TH JOINT BORDER SESSION HELD WITH KENYA 19 JAN

LD201102 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in Amharic 1700 GMT 19 Jan 81 EA

[Text] The 10th ordinary session of Ethiopian-Kenyan border administrators and commissioners opened in Awasa town this afternoon. The Ethiopian delegation to the session, which will further strengthen relations between the two friendly countries, is led by Comrade Girma Habte Gebriel, Commission for Organizing the Party of the Workers of Ethiopia [COPWE] Central Committee member and representative in Sidamo region. The Kenyan delegation is led by His Excellency Mr Mathenge, Kenya's eastern provincial commissioner.

In his opening speech Comrade Girma Habte Gebriel, COPWE Central Committee member and representative in Sidamo region, said that Ethiopia and Kenya had a long history of neighborliness and brotherhood in Africa. He added that the two countries had been victims of imperialist aggression for the exploitation of Africa's raw materials. He went on to say that Ethiopia and Kenya had a common history and were linked by the anticolonialist struggle. He said the help Keyans had given the Ethiopian people during their struggle against Italian colonialism is unforgettable. He also noted that the Kenyan people, led by the great liberation leader, His Excellency President Jomo Kenyatta, had been supported in their fight against British colonialism by the Ethiopian people.

Comrade Girma Habte Gebriel indicated that Ethiopian-Keyan relations had grown stronger after the Ethiopian revolution, adding that this had been facilitated by Ethiopia's respect for the OAU and UN Charters and its admiration of neighborly relations based on the principles of cooperation, understanding and mutual respect between neighboring countries.

Comrade Girma noted that regardless of what our enemies say, the basic objective of the Ethiopian revolution is to build a just society economically, politically and socially. He added that our revolution wants to make the life of the Ethiopian people by eliminating hunger, disease, illiteracy and unemployment, to which they had been exposed for thousands of years.

He went on to say that the people of Kenya are not new to the experience of falling victim to Somali aggression. Somalia is a country which seeks to extend its territory with the help of imperialism. It is therefore necessary to offer joint resistance under the agreement concluded by the leaders and governments of the two countries on the expansionist policy of the reactionary and expansionist Somali regime so that peace can be preserved in the region.

Comrade Girma Habte Gebriel said in his statement that His Excellency President Daniel Arap Moi's recent visit to Ethiopia and that of socialist Ethiopia's leader, Comrade Chairman Mengistu Haile Mariam, to Kenya, had opened a new chapter in the political, cultural and economic relations between the two countries. He explained that, apart from being useful to the two countries, the brotherly relations between them were a model for the relations which ought to be linking other sisterly countries.

He expressed full confidence that the talks to be conducted during the coming days would further strengthen bilateral relations and facilitate making useful decisions which would contribute to the well-being and prosperity of the peoples of the two countries.

In a brief speech, His Excellency Mr Mathenge, the leader of the Kenyan delegation, said that the long-standing relations between Kenya and Ethiopia are being strengthened, adding that while this is a blow to our enemies, it is a means of strengthening our unity. He said that the meeting would provide us with an opportunity to find common solutions to our common problems. Mr Mathenge said that Comrade Mr Mathenge said that Comrade Mengistu Haile Mariam's visit to Nairobi had helped develop and promote the brotherly relations between the two countries. The participants of the meeting then went on to discuss the agenda of the conference. The meeting will continue until 22 January 1981.

Accord on Border Measures

LD221930 Addis Ababa in English to Neighboring Countries 1530 GMT 22 Jan 81 EA

[Text] The 10th regular session of the Ethio-Kenyan border administrators and commissioners in the Ethiopian town of Auasa ended today after reaching complete agreement and full understanding on issues of mutual interest.

A joint statement issued at the end of the 4-day session notes that the delegates had discussed and reached agreement on joint efforts to maintain peace along the border areas, curb the activities of infiltrators from Somalia and continue regular close contacts and discussions among their officials and elders in the border areas to jointly seek solutions for misunderstandings. They have also agreed to ensure strict control against human and animal diseases along their borders and to facilitate trade exchange.

At a banquet given last night in Auasa in honor of the Kenyan delegation, the leader of the Ethiopian delegation, Comrade Girma Habte Gebriel, COPWE Central Committee member and COPWE representative for Sidamo region, said that Ethiopian and Kenya cannot afford to remain indifferent in the face of American adventure in the Horn of Africa by installing bases and arming Somalia which has a persistent claim over Ethiopian and Kenyan territories. He added that Ethiopia and Kenya should remain on the alert against Somalia's continuous expansionist policy.

TIGRE FRONT SPOKESMAN COMMENTS ON ARMY INSURGENCY

NC211832 Paris AFP in English 1826 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] Khartoum, 21 Jan (AFP)--The Soviet-backed Government of Ethiopia has been forced to delay a major counterinsurgency campaign in the Tigre region, a spokesman for the Tigre People's Liberation Front (TPLF) said here today. He cited causes of the postponement as dissension within the Ethiopian Army and continuing harassment by his movement's guerrilla units. The spokesman said that tensions inside the Ethiopian Army reached a peak last week when three soldiers and a civilian were killed in "a wild shootout" in the Enda-Selassie garrison in Tigre, but he gave no reasons for the incident.

Meanwhile, TPLF guerrilla units this week carried out two successful ambushes against government supply convoys trying to reach Enda-Selassie, the main staging area for the planned military offensive, the spokesman disclosed. He said that in an ambush last Sunday at Beles, 15 kilometres east of Enda-Selassie, eight government troops were killed including an army captain, identified as Dawit. Ten were wounded, and one captured. Reinforcements were routed 11 kilometres (seven miles) further to the east, in the village of Adi Denagul, later the same day, the spokesman added.

The TPLF has been fighting for six years to win national self-determination for the five million Tigrean people. It claims to control more than 80 percent of rural Tigre, while the government is isolated in the main towns.

VOICE OF TIGRE REVOLUTION CARRIES NEWS, COMMENT

LD201015 [Fditorial Report] The clandestine Voice of the Broad Masses of Eritrea recently has been heard carrying on its frequencies the programming of a station identifying itself as the Voice of the Tigre Revolution. On Sundays the latter is heard broadcasting news, battle reports and commentary in Amharic from 1315 to 1345 GMT and in Tigrigna from 1345 to 1415 GMT. On Thursdays it is heard in Tigrigna 1345-1415 GMT.

On 18 January the Amharic broadcast opened with the following announcement: "This is the Voice of the Tigre Revolution. Voice of the Tigre Revolution is a radio program arranged and transmitted on the Eritrean People's Liberation front radio from the liberated areas of Eritrea by the Tigre People's Liberation Front. Voice of the Tigre Revolution broadcasts once a week on Sunday afternoons from 1345 to 1415 GMT in Tigrigna on the 19 and 41 meter bands, short wave."

18 Jan News Item

LD201250 (Clandestine) Voice of Tigre Revolution in Amharic to Ethiopia 1315 GMT 18 Jan 81 EA

[Text] Contradictions among the fascist soldiers are getting worse and are being exacerbated. As a result, on 9 January 1981, shooting broke out among the fascist Dergue soldiers in Enda Selassie town, Shire Province, resulting in the instant death of three soldiers and the wounding of a peaceful citizen.

Report on Attacks

LD201255 (Clandestine) Voice of Tigre Revolution in Amharic to Ethiopia 1315 GMT 18 Jan 81 EA

[Text] In a decisive attack last week on fascist Dergue troops, who were in the process of making futile attempts in various places to rob the people and kidnap peaceful citizens, the heroic Tigre People's Liberation Front [TPLF] militiamen killed 11 soldiers and wounded 10 others.

While the fascist Deruge is in the throes of its futile reactionary attempts to stifle the revolutionary attempts to stifle the revolution of the people of Tigre and to destroy their vanguard, the TPLF captured 40 youths and 68 urban dwellers association recruits and administrators in Hegere Salem town, Tembien Province, thereby destroying the Dergue's organization in the town.

In retaliation, the fascist Dergue began harassing the people at a place called [name indistinct] Ambesa in Hagere Salem town on 13 January 1981. The TPLF militia then took the decisive step of killing more than 10 soldiers, wounding more than another 8 and forcing the rest to retreat.

Moreover, on 31 December 1980, the TPLF militia ambushed a Dergue convoy at Beles, situated between the towns of Enda Selassie and Selekleka, killing and wounding many enemy soldiers. An enemy officer, Captain Dawit, was among those killed.

KENYA

MINISTER NOTES UGANDAN READINESS TO COOPERATE

LD210524 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 20 Jan 81 EA

[Text] The Ugandan Government is willing to cooperate with Kenya to bring about unity in East Africa, as well as combat smuggling along the Kenya-Uganda common border. This was said by the minister of state in the office of the president, Mr Nicholas Biwott, during his address at Nyaru, in his Kerio South constituency, after returning from Uganda where he accompanied President Moi last Thursday. Mr Biwott said Ugandans had welcomed the Kenya delegation in the true Nyayu spirit of love, peace and unity and were genuinely willing to cooperate with their Kenyan brothers and sisters in developing their two countries.

UGANDA

OBOTE SENDS CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO REAGAN

LD211830 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 21 Jan 81 EA

[Text] President Obote has said Uganda looks forward to close cooperation and understanding with the United States under the leadership of President Ronald Reagan. In a message of congratulations to Mr Reagan, Dr Obote said:

On the occasion of your inauguration to the high office of President of the United States, I wish on behalf of myself, the government and the people of Uganda to extent to you our warmest and most hearty congratulations. I wish also to convey to you our best wish in steering the destiny not only of the American people, but also in promoting peace and understanding among the people and nations of the world. Uganda, too, has begun a new era. The task of reconstruction and rehabilitation ahead is enormous. We look forward to close cooperation and understanding with your great country under your leadership. Accept, Mr President, the expressions of my highest esteem and consideration.

OBOTE CALLS FOR INCREASED FOOD PRODUCTION

LD202132 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1700 GMT 20 Jan 81 EA

[Excerpt] President Obote has appealed to Ugandans to justify to the whole world that they deserve aid by trying to produce enough food for themselves and a supply for exports. The president made the challenge when he was visiting Kibimba rice scheme at the invitation of the Chinese ambassador to Uganda whose country helped Uganda to establish the project. The president said provided Ugandans have hoes and faith, they can produce enough food for consumption and for sale.

President Obote told Ugandan workers at Kibimba rice scheme to be prepared to go to any part of the country to start similar schemes. Dr Obote also challenged young graduates of agriculture to start their own farms and not to aspire to become officers only. Dr Obote called on graduates from farm schools to stop the habit of going to town to look for jobs for which they have not been trained. He encouraged them to start small farms.

Turning to farmers, the president congratulated them upon their stay in the country and their families during difficult moments. He assured them that his government would do everything possible to help them to continue with this noble task. Earlier, the president expressed gratitude to the Chinese Government for its continued economic and technical cooperation with the Ugandan Government, especially in the development of the Kibimba rice scheme.

Dr Obote stressed that Uganda needs more schemes similar to Kibimba and welcomed the response other countries and international organizations have shown in this venture.

The minister of agriculture, Mr Samuel Mugwisha, reported to the president that the project produces between 1,500 and 2,000 tons of rice annually. Mr Mugwisha disclosed that the Chinese Government will hand over the scheme to the Government of Uganda before the end of June this year but the Chinese experts will remain in Uganda to ensure the success of the scheme.

The minister also reported to the president that the UNDP, China and his ministry are (?holding talks) to decide where in Uganda to start another project.

The Chinese ambassador to Uganda, Mr Zhang Bochuan, hailed the existing relations between China and Uganda. Earlier, the president toured the 1,720-acre scheme where he was shown around by the leader of the Chinese experts, Mr (Chun Kum Chan).

CHAD

PARIS 'SOURCES' ASSESS LIBYAN PENETRATION OF CHAD

AB211928 Paris AFP in French 1758 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] Paris, 21 Jan (AFP)--Reliable sources in France indicate that in addition to the troops of the Common Action Front (FAC) of Foreign Minister Ahmat Acyl which are stationed on the border between Chad and the Central African Republic, Libyan money has started circulating in southern Chad, where there is almost no currency of value any longer. But the sources say there is actually no Libyan presence there.

The sources added that France intends to go on paying the pension of veterans in that region and financing the campaign for cotton production. The same sources also say that the Transitional National Union Government (GUNT) under Goukouni Oueddei--who is currently in Tripoli--has indirectly asked France to rehabilitate the installations at Ndjamena Airport and that the request has been noted.

As for the fighting that is said to be going on in the region of Biltine Darrada, in the center of the country, it is believed in Paris that it provides Libya with a reason for maintaining its troops in Chad. It is also said that the GUNT would like to obtain Nigeria's assistance so that it will not have to face Libya all by itself.

The situation in Chad will undoubtedly be the major subject of the discussions that Nigerian Foreign Minister Ishaya Audu will hold next week in Paris with French officials.

The same sources believe that France is now maintaining a wait-and-see attitude and that each side is polishing its weapons. It is also believed that both Chadian and Libyan officials have officially departed from the declaration of the merger between the two countries, especially after the Lome conference. But the threats posed by the leader of the Libyan revolution, Col Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, are taken seriously. He has a lot of money and can do anything. It is said, however, that in general the leader of the Libyan revolution provides funds to individuals rather than to states.

ZAIRE

HEAD OF STATE COMMENT ON CONSPIRATORS, AID

AB181300 Kinshasa Domestic Service in French 1200 GMT 18 Jan 81

[Text] The present status of the New Year's Eve conspirators, who were last Friday stripped of their political mandate by the MPR Central Committee can be compared to what is legally termed as [words indistinct]. This is what was essentially said by the founding chairman and head of state during an interview he granted to 10 Belgian journalists yesterday at his residence at Camp Tshatshi. The head of state explained, however, that as they are Zairians and members of the MPR, they are at liberty to continue their present activities provided they are not of a political nature.

He said that because of the confusion being created by certain Zairian circles, the Zairian delegation to the meeting of the Belgian-Zairian joint commission which (?should have begun) in Brussels last Monday has not yet left Kinshasa for the meeting.

The head of state, who strongly emphasized that this constant interference is becoming intolerable, exclaimed: Do not believe that we will die if the Belgians withdraw their aid to us.

BENIN

KEREKOU SENDS CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO REAGAN

AB221250 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] Since yesterday, 20 January 1981, the United States has a new president in the person of Ronald Reagan, lucky winner of the elections last November. A congratulatory message from President Kerekou was sent today to the White House in Washington. First of all, I will read the contents of the telegram:

To His Excellency Mr Ronald Reagan, President of the United States, Washington.
Mr President: It is with great pleasure that we address to you on the occasion of your installation as President of the United States our warmest congratulations. We seize this opportunity to reaffirm our total and permanent readiness to strive to strengthen the ties of friendship and cooperation existing betwen our two countries for the development of international cooperation and the consolidation of peace in the world. We wish you complete success in your new duties. Accept, Mr President, our highest regards.

[Signed] Matthieu Kerekou, president of the People's Republic of Benin, head of state and chairman of the National Executive Council

COMMENTARY ON REAGAN FOREIGN POLICY, PRINCIPLES

AB221252 Cotonou Domestic Service in French 1930 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Unattributed commentary]

[Text] Listening to Ronald Reagan's statements about his foreign policies before and after his election, it appears that the new President will tackle the 1980's with the 1950's ideas. The basic principles of this idea can be traced back to the situation in the world a generation ago, a situation in which the authority of the United States was incontestable. He summarizes this idea with the following formula: achieve peace by force. This simply means that President Reagan thinks by increasing America's military capacity, he could settle all international problems and this seems to be dangerous for the future of international peace and consequently world peace in general. The (?protagonist) of peace by force should remember that Europe, for example, has not achieved any significant development for many years by remaining docile under the American (?military umbrella). Reagan stands the risk of committing errors, especially when we know that Japan is now an economic giant which threatens and is capable in many aspects of rivaling the United States.

At any rate the tendency in the developed countries now is toward a defensive foreign policy [words indistinct]. It is not by chance that in France the minister of cooperation is also the minister of defense. It is not the same concern to add muscles to diplomacy which led to the appointment of Gen Alexander Haig, considered to be the strongman of President Reagan's team, as the head of American foreign policy? It is therefore only logical that Americans, by electing President Reagan [words indistinct].

CAPE VERDE

PAICV ELECTS NINE-MAN POLITICAL COMMISSION

AB222110 Paris AFP in French 1730 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] Praia, 22 January (AFP)--A nine-member political commission was elected on Wednesday by the national council of the PAICV [African Independence Party of Cape Verde], a party founded on Monday to replace the PAIGC [African Independence Party of Guinea-Bissau and Cape Verde] following the 14 November coup d'etat in Bissau, disapproved of by Praia.

The list of this commission, which will head the new party between sessions of the national council, which is in turn the supreme organ of the PAICV between congresses is as follows: Mr Aristides Pereira, president of the Republic of Cape Verde; Pedro Pires, prime minister; Abilio Duarte, speaker of the National Assembly; Jose Araujo, former permanent secretary of the PAIGC; Silvino da Luz, minister of foreign affairs; Honorio Chantre, minister of the armed forces; Osvaldo Lopes da Silva, minister of economic coordination; Olivio Pires, former leader of the PAIGC in Cape Verde, and Julio de Carvalho, minister of interior.

Mr Peteira, Mr Pires and Mr Duarte were members of the former permanent commission which ruled the PAIGC. All members of the political commission are Cape Verdians who fought the independence war in Guinea-Bissau before seven of them waged the political battle in Cape Verde.

Three members of the commission, Periera, Duarte and Araujo, are political officials and the six other fought in the war as majors. Mr Araujo and Major de Carvalho were serving in Bissau at the time of the coup d'etat--the latter was deputy chief of staff--but the coup d'etat took place while they were out of the country. Commander Chantre was also deputy chief of staff in Bissau shortly before the coup d'etat, but he had returned to Cape Verde to take up another post there.

In addition to the resolutions passed by the founding congress of the PAICV which ended on Tuesday but which have just been published, is a motion of support for SWAPO as the sole legitimate representative of the Namibian people in their struggle for independence and a motion of unconditional solidarity with the MPLA in the face of the cowardly attacks of South African troops.

GUINEA-BISSAU

VIEIRA SAYS POLITICAL PRISONERS TO BE RELEASED

AB221812 Paris AFP in English 0734 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] Bissau, 22 Jan (AFP)--All political prisoners in Guinea-Bissau, including those arrested in a November 14 coup d'etat which overthrew President Luis Cabral, will soon be released, according to the head of the West African states new ruling body.

Major Jaoa Bernado Vieira, chairman of the Council of the Revolution, said in a radio broadcast that it is not only Luis Cabral whom we are holding prisoner. We are also holding many sons of our country who let themselves be led. He added: "We are going to release all the sons of our country in order that they may live as free citizens. We arrested them for reasons of security and also in order that they should be aware of our sense of justice. We are going to set them free, however, although they have committed crimes against the over-riding interests of our people."

Mr Vieira did not directly mention any possible release of Mr Cabral himself, but the announcement appeared to herald such a move, predicted in the last few days in several reports from abroad.

LIBERIA

DOE SENDS CONGRATULATORY MESSAGE TO REAGAN

AB230745 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 0625 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] Head of State Master Sergeant Doe has sent a congratulatory message to the new American President, Ronald Reagan, on his inauguration as the 40th head of Government of the United States. In a telegram message to the new President, head of state Doe said that Reagan's administration, which began in the third century of American independence, will be characterized by renewal of the American dream to ensure greater advantage for the people of the United States.

The head of state also hoped that the administration of President Reagan would ensure the furtherance of peace, harmony and understanding among all nations of the world.

On Liberia-American relation, Master Sergeant Doe (?hoped) that traditional bonds of friendship which had characterized relations between Liberia and the United States over the years would be further strengthened during the Reagan term of presidency in the United States.

DOE: FORMER VICE PRESIDENT SPREADING 'PROPAGANDA'

AB212011 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1900 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] The head of state and chairman of the PRC, M Sgt Samuel Kanyon Doe, has blamed former Liberian vice president Bennie D. Warner for the recent NEWSWEEK magazine article entitled "The Sergeant Dictator," which presents a negative picture of Master Sergeant Doe and the Liberian Government.

Master Sergeant Doe made the disclosure at the executive mansion in Monrovia today in his first official comment on last week's edition of NEWSWEEK magazine. He charged that the antirevolutionaries residing in the United States of America were also assisting Mr Warner, who, he said, has already changed his name to (Barry Daganga Moussa) and is living as a professor in Abidjan under Ivorian nationality with passport number 1890-80.

The head of state said it was the aim of Mr Warner, alias (Warfer), to spread what the master sergeant called cheap propaganda against him and the Liberian Government. The master sergeant's charges against the former vice president, who left Liberia for the United States a few days before the military took over on 12 April last year, were based on intelligence reports about the activities of Mr Warner.

Head of state Doe described the writer of the NEWSWEEK article as an unprofessional journalist, who, he said, was ignorant of the current events in Liberia. He said the magazine published such negative stories with the belief that the PRC would bar the entire issue of the magazine meant for Liberia as the Tolbert government did in 1972 when TIME carried a story about a huge amount of money deposited in a bank in Switzerland for the family of the late finance minister, Steven A. Tolbert. Master Sergeant Doe revealed that the Tolbert government burned the magazine that had the article upon arrival at Roberts International Airport.

He warned self-imposed exile Liberians to stop interfering in the affairs of the government because it was seeking means to provide better living standards for the Liberian people.

Meanwhile the head of state today invited foreign journalists who were entrusted with reporting events about Liberia to travel in Monrovia and find out facts before reporting on the country.

NIGER

ENVOY DELIVERS AS-SADAT MESSAGE TO KOUNTCHE

AB202045 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 20 Jan 81

[Excerpt] President Seyni Kountche received Mr Samir Ahmed, special envoy from President as-Sadat and Egyptian under secretary of state in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, at 1000 this morning. Samir Ahmed said that he had delivered a message of friendship to the chairman of the Supreme Military Council from the Egyptian head of state. He also explained that he had discussed African problems and bilateral cooperation with President Seyni Kountche.

SHAGARI TO BRIEF KOUNTCHE DURING NIAMEY STOPOVER

AB221758 Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] President Shehu Shagari has arrived in Niamey on a stopover visit to President Seyni Kountche of Niger Republic. President Shehu Shagari, who is on his way home after a 4-day state visit to Cameroon Republic, will brief Niger's leader on his recent discussion in Lagos with President Goukouni Oueddei of Chad Republic.

Speaking to newsmen at Niamey airport, the president remarked that Nigeria and Niger Republic share very cordial relations. He added that his visit was a reaffirmation of the friendly and a brotherly ties between the two countries.

Answering a question, President Shehu Shagari said that it is not possible yet to determine whether any country was involved in the recent disturbances in Kano, adding that most of the religious fanatics were foreign nationals. The president told the newsmen that a commission had been set up to look into the cause of the disturbances and that its report would have to establish if there was any foreign nation involved.

NIGERIA

LAGOS DETAILS NIGERIA-CAMEROON COMMUNIQUE

AB222145 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Text] Nigeria and the Cameroon Republic have agreed to intensify cooperation in many areas. These include political, economic, trade, cultural and social matters. In a communique issued at the end of President Shehu Shagari's 4-day state visit to Cameroon, the two countries resolved to give new impetus to their relations. Proposals to achieve these objectives will be examined at the meeting of the Nigeria-Cameroon joint cooperation commission, which will take place in Yaounde shortly.

During their talks, President Shehu Shagari and his Cameroonian counterpart examined many issues. They also expressed deep concern regarding areas of tension in Africa and the destabilization particularly arising from rival interests or ideologies.

The two leaders denounced continued interference in the internal affairs of other states and made an urgent appeal for the rapid settlement of disputes between African countries through peaceful means.

On Chad, they expressed deep concern over present developments in that country and strongly supported the resolution adopted at the recent meeting in Lome, Togo. In addition, the two leaders expressed their firm desire to work for the implementation of the reconstruction of Chad. It was their view that the independence and territorial integrity of Chad, as well as its security and stability, which implies noninterference in its international [as heard] affairs, were prerequisites for the balance and stability of the region as a whole.

On the situation in Southern Africa, they condemned South Africa's negative attitude and deliberate intransigence, which brought about the failure of the Geneva conference. The two leaders pledged their continued support for SWAPO and the eradication of apartheid, which would lead to eventual majority rule in South Africa. They also referred to the need for inter-African economic cooperation and agreed that economic groupings among African countries should form the nucleus of a future African common market.

On his way back to Lagos earlier today, President Shehu Shagari made a stopover in Niamey, Niger Republic, where he had talks with President Seyni Kountche. They discussed a number of issues, including the recent talks in Lagos by President Goukouni Oueddei of Chad.

PAPER CONCERNED ABOUT LIBYAN PRESENCE IN CHAD

AB221255 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Press review]

[Excerpt] The NATIONAL CONCORD expresses concern at the threat posed by Libya's military presence in Chad in view of the fact that Nigeria shares a common border with that country. The paper also shows its displeasure at France's military buildup in the CAR, ostensibly to back up her disapproval at the proposed merger between Libya and Chad. This state of affairs if unchecked, the CONCORD points out, will make what it describes as a "Middle East" of the West African subregion. It therefore wants the OAU to ensure that Libya complies with its directives and withdraw her troops from Chad. In this regard, the CONCORD believes Nigeria and Egypt have a special role to play by mobilizing and leading other countries to curtail and defeat the Libyan threat. The paper concludes: National interest and security should dictate Nigeria's insistence on the total pullout of all foreign troops from Chad.

PAPERS COMMENT ON REAGAN ATTITUDE TOWARD AFRICA

AB220945 Lagos Domestic Service in English 0900 GMT 22 Jan 81

[Press Review]

[Excerpts] Two papers, the TRIBUNE and the STANDARD, again comment on the new administration in the United States. The TRIBUNE examines some of the issues President Ronald Reagan should address himself to during his tenure of office. In the first instance, the paper would want the President to use his good offices to underplay what it describes as the confrontationist tendencies that have always existed between the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, NATO, and its eastern bloc counterpart, the Warsaw Pact. The TRIBUNE also hopes that Mr Reagan will take advantage of his position to impress on the Western world to be more positive in their trade relations with Africa. While wishing him a successful sojourn at the White House, the paper reminds the new American leader that the issue of total liberation and majority rule in southern Africa cannot be compromised.

On its part, the STANDARD remarks that Africa is not likely to be on the priority list of President Reagan judging from his postelection pronouncements. In the opinion of the paper, the new President's main concern will be his country's economy and image, which will bring about a militant foreign policy aimed at checking Russian adventurism. The STANDARD laments the exit of Mr Jimmy Carter and regards his defeat as a blow to Africa because, according to it, in the former president Africa saw a true friend. Nevertheless, the paper expresses the need for the new President to evolve a positive African policy if he wants Africans to take him seriously.

GOVERNMENT WARNS AGAINST DISRUPTING OIL AREAS

AB211300 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1200 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] The federal government has warned that it will no longer condone any act overt or covert designed and directed at possibly halting operations in the country's oil locations. In a statement issued today by the executive office of the president, the government expressed shock at the attitude of some antisocial elements and certain local communities who in the recent past disrupted operations in oil fields and caused the country a substantial loss of much-needed revenue.

The statement reminded the general public of the provisions of the petroleum production and distribution antisabotage act of 1975 which stipulated a penalty of either death or imprisonment for a term of up to 21 years for any person convicted under the act.

In its determination to arrest such acts of sabotage, the government has therefore directed the law enforcement agencies to adhere strictly to the provisions of the act. Local communities have been advised to channel their grievances to the appropriate authorities in a constitutional manner.

ELECTORAL COMMISSION RECOGNIZES PRP FACTION

AB211637 Lagos Domestic Service in English 1500 GMT 21 Jan 81

[Text] The Federal Electoral Commission, FEDECO, says that it recognizes the faction of the People's Redemption Party, PRP, led by Malam Aminu Kano as the only authentic, lawful and proper People's Redemption Party.

In a statement issued in Lagos today, FEDECO explained that it came to this conclusion after carefully considering the claims and counterclaims of the two factions in the party to be the lawful People's Redemption Party that registered with the commission. It also examined the submissions made by the two factions and the provisions of section 1 of Article A of the constitution of the People's Redemption Party filed with FEDECO. The Article, noted FEDECO, vested supreme authority of the PRP in the annual or special convention. The party registered the golden key as its symbol with Malam Aminu Kano as national president and Mr S. G. Ikoku as the national secretary.

Recently, due to an intraparty crisis within the PRP, a faction led by Chief Michael Imodu as president and the Kano state governor, Alhaji Abubakar Rimi as its national secretary, declared itself as the legitimate People's Redemption Party.

PRESS REPORTS ON PROBES OF KANO INCIDENTS

Shagari Inquiry Panel

WA230012 Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 3 Jan 81 p 1

[Excerpt] President Shehu Shagari has set up a four-man judiciary tribunal of inquiry with full power to inquire into the causes of the recent religious disturbances in Kano.

The panel which is to be called "The Kano Disturbances Tribunal of Inquiry" was set up by the President under the powers conferred upon him by section 1 of the Tribunal of Inquiry Act 1966, and all powers enabling him in that behalf.

Members of the panel are Mr. Justice Anthony Nnaemezie Aniagolu, Chairman, Alhaji Ustaz Yoonus Abdullahi, member, Chief Theophilus Fagbola, member and Colonel (RTD) Datti S. Abubakar member.

Ambassador A.A. Adeshola, of the Ministry of External Affairs, is appointed the secretary while Alhaji Abdullahi Ibrahim, a Kaduna based legal practitioner is appointed counsel to the tribunal with Mr. Olukomilalude of 22 Ake Road, Ijemo, Abeokuta as his assistant.

Terms of reference of the tribunal of inquiry are stated as follows: to determine whether any person or group of persons by conduct or negligence or otherwise has so ever in any way caused or contributed to the breaking out of the disturbances and to make recommendations as to measure to be taken against any such person or persons, to ascertain whether there has been incidents of breaches of the peace or of threats to, or actual breakdown in the maintenance of law and order in the area affected prior to the breaking out of the disturbances and involving any of the persons aforementioned.

Others are: to determine whether any person or group of persons propagating or holding religious, political or other beliefs, or any movement for association (however called) and how such persons contributed through or participated in any way in the disturbances, to ascertain whether any person or group of persons not being citizen of Nigeria encouraged, contributed or participated in the disturbances.

Kano Assembly Probe

WA230024 Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 2 Jan 81 p 3

[Article by James Akande]

[Excerpt] Kano--The Kano State House of Assembly last Monday resolved to appoint a judicial commission of inquiry to investigate the circumstances surrounding the recent religious violence of the militant sect under the leadership of Alhaji Muhammadu Marwa Maitatsine, during which hundreds of people were killed.

In addition, the House also resolved to urge the state government to set-up an aid committee which will handle relief materials to victims of the religious disturbances in the state.

The resolutions followed the adoption of a motion tabled before the House, by its Chief Whip, Alhaji Umaru Dankura Adamu, who is also a member representing the Shahuci constituency in the Kano Municipality.

The judicial commission is to look into, among other things, the root causes of the religious riot and how the leader of the fanatical sect, Alhaji Muhammadu Marwa Maitatsine, staged a come back to Kano after he was once deported to his home country, Cameroon.

Ministry Probe

WA230028 Kaduna NEW NIGERIAN in English 1 Jan 81 p 16

[Article by Bala Dan Abu]

[Excerpt] Lagos--Ministry of Internal Affairs will conduct a separate investigation into the reported involvement of aliens in the recent religious disturbances in Kano.

Speaking at an interview in Lagos on Tuesday, the Minister of State in the ministry, Mrs. Janet Akinrinade, said that the investigations, to be complementary to the one that might be instituted by the Federal Government would be conducted by the Immigration Department of the Ministry.

The investigations, she said, were necessary to help the ministry determine the nationality of the aliens and whether or not they came into the country legally.

UPPER VOLTA

ZERBO ISSUES DECREE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE SECRETARY

AB151020 Ouagadougou Domestic Service in French 0730 GMT 15 Jan 81

[Decree No 81 0018 Pres CMRPN]

[Text] The president of the Military Committee of Redress for National Progress, president of the Council of Ministers and head of state decrees:

Article 1: Col Somey Yoryan Gabriel is nominated secretary general of national defense and former servicemen.

Article 2: The minister of national defense and former servicemen is charged with the execution of this decree effective 1 January 1981. This decree will be recorded and published in the official gazette of the republic.

Ouagadougou, 14 January 1981.

[Signed] Col Saye Zerbo

ANGOLA

CZECHOSLOVAK TRADE MINISTER IN LUANDA FOR MEETING

AB191610 Luanda Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Text] The Czechoslovak minister of foreign trade, Mr Andrej Barcak, has been in Luanda since yesterday at the head of a delegation to participate in a meeting of the second session of the Angola-Czechoslovak joint commision which takes place from 20 to 21 January in the Angolan capital. The Angolan delegation will be led by the minister of industries, Bento Ribeiro. The first session of the joint commission took place last June in Prague.

LUANDA REPORTS ARRIVAL OF YUGOSLAVIA'S MINIC

AB191552 Luanda Domestic Service in French 1100 GMT 19 Jan 81

[Text] Cooperation between the MPLA-Labor Party and the League of Communists of Yugoslavia dates back many years, and Angola and Yugoslavia are two countries which have always been linked by friendly bonds. This was declared last night by Milos Minic, member of the Central Committee Presidium and chairman of the social council for the external policies of the country. Milos Minic said exchanging ideas with Angolan authorities will contribute to the strengthening of relations between the two parties and the governments. Milos Minic, who is on an official visit to Angola at the invitation of the MPLA-Labor Party, was welcomed on arrival by the Central Committee's organizing secretary, Lucio Lara, who was accompanied by the minister of external relations, Paulo Jorge, and the Yugoslav ambassador to Angola, Mr Babic.

Yugoslav Reportage

For Yugoslav reportage on the visit to Angola of Milos Minic, member of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia Central Committee Presidency, see the Yugoslavia section of the 19 January Eastern Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

SOUTH AFRICA

RIGHTIST PARTY OFFICIAL THREATENS TO SEIZE POWER

AB230753 Paris AFP in English 0741 GMT 23 Jan 81

[Text] East London, South Africa, Jan 23 (AFP)--A top official of the small extreme-rightwing Herstigte Nasionale Party (HNP) warned here Thursday that the party would seize power by force if it won the next general election but was not allowed to take office.

The official, National Secretary Louis Stofberg, told an election meeting here that the party, which won only three per cent of the votes and no seats at the last general election in 1977, would win about 100 seats at the next election. He said the party, which has never won any parliamentary seats since its foundation in 1969, would stiffen racial apartheid laws. He added: "If the present government is not prepared to relinquish power to the HNP if elected, the party will take up arms against the government to take power."

ZAMBIA

COPPERBELT REGION MINERS' STRIKE SPREADING

LD211454 Lusaka Domestic Service in English 1115 GMT 21 Jan 81 CA

[Text] The miners' strike which started in Chililabombwe yesterday this morning spread to Ndola, Luanshya, Kabwe and Mufulira. Copperbelt member of the Central Committee Mr Alex Shapi today confirmed that the wildcat strike has spread to most areas in the province. No specific reasons were given for the strike action, but it is believed that the miners struck in sympathy with the Labor movement leaders (?sacked) from the party last week. The miners have expressed fears that the expulsion of the mineworkers' union of Zambia officials from the party would affect their fight for better working conditions.

ZIMBABWE

MUGABE RETURNS FROM 1-DAY VISIT TO ZAMBIA

LD201338 Salisbury Domestic Service in English 1745 GMT 19 Jan 81 CA

[Text] The prime minister, Comrade Mugabe, returned to Salisbury from Lusaka today after signing a comprehensive cooperation agreement with Zambia covering economic, agricultural, technical and social affairs. In ending his 1-day trip to Zambia, Comrade Mugabe called on SWAPO as the sole legal and authentic representative of the people of Namibia to intensify its armed struggle against the racist South African forces. Comrade Mugabe also called on the United Nations to formulate more effective pressures to force the Pretoria regime into accepting self-determination and national independence for the people of Namibia. He added: Apartheid will fail if the progressive forces of the international community pool their resources to liquidate it.

Comrade Mugabe also condemned South Africa for its sabotage and destabilizing tactics in Zimbabwe and the entire South African region. He thanked the government and people of Zambia for supporting the drive for national unity in Zimbabwe. Comrade Mugabe said Zimbabwe has adopted the policy of reconciliation and national unity to eradicate all former enemies and tribal divisions. He said the people of Zimbabwe will soon be enjoying complete peace and stability because they are now united by their hard-won independence.

In his farewell speech after the signing ceremony President Kaunda made an impassioned plea for unity in Zimbabwe. He said that in supporting the struggle in Zimbabwe, Zambia was not sacrificing for an individual or a party but for the people of Zimbabwe. On the Namibian independence question, Dr Kaunda called on the five-nation Western contact group to intensify their efforts in securing a peaceful solution to the dispute. He said that with South African procrastinating on the issue SWAPO has every right to continue with its noble struggle to establish social justice and independence in Namibia.